



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

JANUARY MEETING, 1890.

THE stated meeting was held on the 9th instant, at three o'clock, P. M.; the President, Dr. GEORGE E. ELLIS, in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read by the Recording Secretary, and approved; and the Librarian read the list of accessions to the Library.

The Hon. Leverett Saltonstall was appointed to write the memoir of the late R. B. Forbes for the Proceedings.

The PRESIDENT then called attention to the approaching sale of the very valuable library which belonged to the late S. L. M. Barlow, of New York, and expressed a hope that some of the bibliographical treasures in it might be purchased for the Boston Public Library or for the State.

The Hon. MELLECHAMBERLAIN spoke briefly of the importance of securing for the State archives the contemporaneous copy of the earliest Records of the Massachusetts Colony which Colonel Aspinwall procured in London many years ago, and which was used by Dr. Shurtleff when printing the additional pages inserted in some of the copies of the Colony Records. He was followed by Mr. JUSTIN WINSOR and Dr. S. A. GREEN, Commissioners on the State Archives, who said they had arranged to give the matter immediate attention.

Dr. SAMUEL A. GREEN then said:—

In a letter of our late associate, General Palfrey, written to me last summer, he quotes from Mr. Whitmore's article on the Names of Towns in Massachusetts, published in the Proceedings (vol. xii. pp. 393-419), and refers to the statement there made on page 405, that the name of Becket, as applied to the town in Berkshire County, "can hardly be traced." General Palfrey suggests that it came from Beckett, the name of the estate in English Berkshire, owned by the Lords Barrington. On mentioning the suggestion to Mr. R. C. Winthrop, Jr., he at once concurred in the opinion, and said, furthermore, that the name of the Barringtons was originally

Shute, and that one of the family was Colonel Samuel Shute, Governor of the Province of Massachusetts from the year 1716 to 1723. A niece of Colonel Shute was married to Sir Francis Bernard, Governor of the Province from the year 1760 to 1769; and accordingly, when, in 1765, Governor Bernard was called upon to name certain towns in the western part of the State, he seems to have called one of them after the family-seat of his wife's cousin, Lord Barrington.

Akin to this subject, there is another statement, in the same article on the Names of Towns in Massachusetts, which will bear modification. In a note at the bottom of page 407, Mr. Whitmore refers to the town of Winchester, formerly called Arlington, and says that it was in Hampshire County, but that he "cannot find its present representative." This town was in territory once claimed by Massachusetts, but which, by the running of the new provincial line in 1741, was brought within the limits of New Hampshire, and comes now in Cheshire County of that State.

Mr. CHARLES C. SMITH communicated some excerpts from the journal of the Rev. Dr. John Pierce, and said: —

At a social meeting held some years ago, at the house of our lamented associate, Mr. Deane, I communicated from the manuscript journal of the late Rev. Dr. John Pierce, in the possession of this Society, an account of a journey which he made in 1795 to attend the Commencement exercises at Providence and New Haven.¹ That narrative has suggested the communication, which I wish now to make, of his notes on the Commencement exercises at Cambridge during a period of forty-six consecutive years, beginning with 1803. Few graduates can have been so assiduous in their attendance at Commencement as Dr. Pierce; and his record of impressions is probably unique. His peculiarities were well known to our older associates, and are sufficiently apparent in the extracts from his journal now communicated; but nothing more need be said of them here. It is proper, however, to add that he was a very zealous advocate of the total-abstinence cause, and that the excesses in drinking at Commencement, on which he

¹ See 2 Proceedings, vol. iii. pp. 40-52.

expresses himself very freely, no doubt seemed to him much greater than they really were. There are many repetitions in his notes, and many of the incidental remarks are of a very unimportant character; but as a whole they have considerable historical and biographical interest, and I have thought that their value would be diminished by any attempt at abridgment. I have, however, omitted several thousand names of persons whom Dr. Pierce saw at Commencement or at the anniversary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, which he also regularly attended; and I have also omitted a few observations here and there which it did not seem proper to print. These omissions are indicated in the usual manner, and for the most part refer to persons still living or to matters of which Dr. Pierce could have had no personal knowledge. It has not seemed desirable to attempt any elaborate annotations, and with few exceptions the notes are confined to supplying the Christian names, and the Commencement parts, of the graduates mentioned by him, and to giving the places and dates of birth and death.

I have appended a curious summary which he has inserted in his journal, showing the college expenses of an uncle, who graduated in 1769, of himself in the next generation, and of his own son, who graduated in 1831.

Some Notes on the Commencements at Harvard University, 1803-1843.

[1803.]

31 Aug. At Commencement. The first publick performance was Dr. Watts' "Why do we mourn," &c., to the tune of old Windsor, by the students & audience in general. My XIXth Commencement.

The President then solemnly entreated the audience by the regard they had to decency and to the memory of the worthy Dr. T. that there might be no clapping as a token of applause. This request of the President had a surprising effect. A solemn stillness reigned throughout the assembly. All seemed to unite in a sympathetick grief for the loss of so good and so valuable a man as Dr. T.¹

¹ Rev. David Tappan, D.D., Hollis Professor of Divinity, born in Manchester, April 21, 1753; died in Cambridge, August 27, 1803. The funeral services were two days before Commencement. The first stanza of the hymn sung at Commencement is as follows:—

"Why do we mourn departing Friends?
Or shake at Death's Alarms?
'T is but the Voice that Jesus sends
To call them to his Arms."

The Latin oration by Kirkland¹ was handsomely written, & spoken with emphasis and propriety. He paid an affectionate tribute to the memory of the very worthy Professor.

The sentiments of Farrar² in an English dissertation were well adapted to oppose the rage for novel-reading and plays which is so prevalent, especially in the capital.

The poem by Lincoln³ was worthy a disciple of Voltaire, who in affection for the great whole forgets the parts.

The oration by Savage⁴ contained many beautiful figures & sentiments ingeniously and forcibly expressed. It, however, lacked unity of design.

The oration by Rev. Mr. Bates,⁵ on Skepticism, was such as well became the sacred profession in which he is engaged.

In the hall at dinner the greatest decorum prevailed. After singing the usual hymn, Dr. Holmes read a subscription paper for publishing a volume of the Dr.'s sermons.

Rev. Wm. Symmes, of Andover, D.D.

[1804.]

29 Aug. At Commencement. XX.

The salutatory oration, by Aspinwall II.,⁶ of my parish, was well written and handsomely performed.

Sprague,⁷ of Salem, in the part of a conference defending painting, was highly applauded.

Nichols & Cary⁸ were very popular in a colloquy on the superiority of a publick to a private education.

¹ Samuel Kirkland, born in Whitestown, N. Y., Dec. 6, 1781; died in Boston, Nov. 23, 1805.

² John Farrar, afterward Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, born in Lincoln, July 1, 1779; died in Cambridge, May 8, 1853. His subject was "The Moral Tendency of Representations of Fictitious Distress."

³ Daniel Waldo Lincoln, born in Worcester, March 2, 1784; died there, April 17, 1815. His poem was on "Benevolence."

⁴ James Savage, born in Boston, July 13, 1784; died there, March 8, 1873. His subject was "The Patronage of Genius." A memoir of Mr. Savage, by George S. Hillard, is in *Proceedings*, vol. xvi. pp. 117-153.

⁵ Rev. Joshua Bates, D.D. (of the class of 1800), afterward President of Middlebury College, born in Cohasset, March 20, 1776; died in Dudley, Jan. 14, 1854. He was ordained minister of the First Church in Dedham in March, 1803.

⁶ Thomas Aspinwall, born in Brookline, May 23, 1786; died in Boston, August 11, 1876. The preparation of a memoir of him for the *Proceedings* was assigned to S. K. Lothrop, and afterward to Charles Deane; but owing to the loss of important materials, it had not been completed at the death of Mr. Deane.

⁷ Joseph E. Sprague, born in Salem, Sept. 9, 1782; died there, Feb. 22, 1852.

⁸ Benjamin R. Nichols (born in Portsmouth, N. H., May 18, 1786; died in Boston, April 30, 1848), and Rev. Samuel Cary (born in Newburyport, Nov. 24,

Thacher¹ did himself great honour in the concluding oration, "On Reverence of Antiquity."

Rev. [John Nelson] Abbel, N. York, D.D.; Rev. Eli Forbes, Gloucester, D.D.

[1805.]

28 Aug. At Commencement. XXI.

Professor Pearson presided. Dr. Lathrop prayed.

The salutatory oration in Latin, by Crafts,² was well written & delivered.

The forensick between Bodwell and Pettengill,³ "Whether Utility be the Foundation of Moral Obligation?" evinced sound sense.

A Latin oration by Tappan,⁴ son of the late Professor, was sensible & eloquent.

The English dialogue, on diversity of personal character, between Greenough and Beckford,⁵ excited much diversion.

Chipman's⁶ English oration was written and delivered in an eloquent manner.

But they were all far exceeded by Ritchie,⁷ a candidate for the second degree, "On Ancient and Modern Eloquence & Poetry," as the stars are obscured by the presence of the bright luminary of day. In the hall Mr. Whitney of Shirley (1759) returned thanks.

[1806.]

XXII. 27 August, I attended Commencement. President Webber made his first publick appearance. His prayer was plain, serious, devout, and pertinent, without the least appearance of affectation or display. He presided with a good degree of dignity, without making, as far as I could perceive, a single mistake.

1785; died in Royston, England, Oct. 22, 1815). A notice of Mr. Nichols by Henry Wheatland is in *Proceedings*, vol. ii. p. 427.

¹ Rev. Samuel C. Thacher, born in Boston, Dec. 14, 1785; died in Moulins, France, Jan. 2, 1818.

² William Crafts, born in Charleston, S. C., Jan. 24, 1787; died at Ballston Springs, N. Y., Sept. 22, 1826.

³ Rev. Abraham Bodwell (born in Methuen, May 6, 1778; died in Sanbornton, N. H., March 24, 1863), and Rev. Amos Pettengill (born in Salem, N. H., August 9, 1780; died in Salembridge, Conn., August 17, 1830).

⁴ Rev. Benjamin Tappan, D.D., born in West Newbury, Nov. 7, 1788; died in Augusta, Me., Dec. 22, 1863.

⁵ David S. Greenough (born in Roxbury, March 28, 1787; died there, August 6, 1830), and Ebenezer H. Beckford (born in Salem, July 1, 1786; died in Andover, March 10, 1869).

⁶ Ward Chipman, born in St. John, N. B., July 10, 1787; died there, Nov. 26, 1851. His subject was "The Influence of Learning."

⁷ Andrew Ritchie, of the class of 1802, born in Boston, July 18, 1782; died in Newport, R. I., August 7, 1862.

Several parts were performed to good acceptance. The concluding oration, by Everett, 2^d,¹ was an admirable display of genius and fine writing. He was considered the best, although the youngest in his class. He was born, it is said, 19 March, 1790.

Savage² did himself great honour in his oration on commerce. He was candidate for the Master's degree.

Dr. Lathrop concluded with prayer. The theatrical musick with which the exercises was interspersed was highly disgusting to the more solid part of the audience.

After the exercises I dined in the hall. Pres. Webber blessing. Dr. Cumings (1760) thanks. We sung St. Martin's to the usual psalm, "Give ear, my people," &c.

Saw only two of my classmates, Hilliard I. and Whitney. Seven of the class have departed to the world of spirits. . . .

This was the XXII. Commencement I have attended from 1784 inclusive, except 1791, when my mother, on Commencement day, P. M. was buried.

Rev. President Webber, Rev. Henry Ware, Rev. John Marsh, Weathersfield, Con., Rev. Henry Kollock, N. J., D.D.

[1807.]

XXIII. 26 August, attended my 23^d Commencement at Cambridge. The day was fine. But the performances in general were ordinary. The most distinguished was an oration, by Smith,³ on Literary Exertion. Bates⁴ in a conference did well. The colloquy by Merrill & Parkman⁵ was interesting. The poem failed by the sickness of Haven.⁶ One part in a conference was also omitted, owing to the indisposition of Marston. The concluding oration, by Tufts,⁷ was a manly performance.

¹ Alexander H. Everett, died in Canton, China, June 29, 1847. His oration was on "The Effects of a General Diffusion of Literature." A notice of him, by Charles Deane, is in Proceedings, vol. ii. p. 608, note.

² James Savage, of the class of 1803.

³ William Smith, born in Boston, April 20, 1788; died there, Sept. 10, 1811.

⁴ David Bates, born in Cohasset, Sept. 12, 1784; died in Westborough, Feb. 9, 1869. He had a part in a conference on "The Effects which the Cultivation of the Sciences, the Liberal and Mechanic Arts, produce on the Character of Society," with Rev. Phineas Fish (born in Sandwich, Jan. 30, 1785; died in Barnstable, June 16, 1854), and Nymphas Marston (born in Barnstable, Feb. 1, 1788; died there, May 2, 1864).

⁵ Samuel Merrill (born in Plaistow, N. H., Nov. 3, 1786; died in Andover, Dec. 23, 1869), and Rev. Francis Parkman, D.D. (born in Boston, June 4, 1788; died there, Nov. 12, 1852).

⁶ Nathaniel A. Haven, born in Portsmouth, N. H., Jan. 14, 1787; died there, June 3, 1826.

⁷ Joseph Tufts, born in Charlestown, Oct. 5, 1783; died there, July 15, 1835. His oration was on "Agriculture."

For the Master's degree, Stickney¹ delivered an oration of 45 minutes in length on the truth of Christianity. He had many brilliant thoughts. But his strength of voice was not sufficient for any of the audience to hear him distinctly. In his management of the subject he appeared to me very obscure.

The valedictory in Latin, by Aspinwall 2^d,² was a truly masterly performance. It was short, yet glanced upon every pertinent & interesting topic.

But 35 were admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Arts. The smallness of the number was owing to a rebellion which took place at the University last spring.

On 30 March the students had a college meeting to enter into some resolutions respecting commons, which, they pretended, were insufferably bad. The result of their meeting was, that they should leave the hall at noon, immediately after the blessing, which they accordingly did. They also resolved to go into the kitchen, the next morning, and take away all the provisions and strew them over the college yard. The sudden & unexpected cessation of commons prevented them from executing their rash and rebellious purpose.

On Saturday, 4 April, they were required by the Corporation to sign a paper expressive of regret for past misconduct & promising better behaviour in future. They were required to do this by 11 April or to leave college.

By every method of persuasion and of force which could be devised, but about 35 were, sooner or later, induced to sign. Of those who persisted in their obstinacy in the senior class, who would not sign, and therefore lost their degrees, were ³ . . .

——— was not required to sign. But he entered very readily into the rebellion, and even wrote the statement of the scholars respecting the badness of their food, &c., though he had not been in commons for more than 6 months. He accordingly left college to show his hearty concurrence with the class in their unreasonable rebellion.

I am credibly informed by the most disinterested persons who have frequented commons that they were never better. The government, it is true, have always made a point of economising as much as possible for the benefit of poor scholars; and it has ever been considered a merciful provision. So accommodating are they, however, that they have determined to make the living more expensive, that they may cut off all possible occasion of complaint.

¹ John Stickney, of the class of 1804, born in Newburyport, Feb. 24, 1784; died there, Dec. 14, 1833.

² Thomas Aspinwall, of the class of 1804.

³ Here follow nine names.

This class originally consisted of 63; so that 28 have by various means been prevented from taking degrees.¹

Very few of the students made entertainments. I never knew so few people in the house, nor so few on the Common.

Of my classmates I saw but one, Rev. Nicholas B. Whitney, of Hingham.

Since last Commencement, Charles Angier, the eighth who has died, departed this life.

The Pres. (Dr. Webber) made the introductory and concluding prayer. He also asked the blessing in the hall, and Dr. Cumings, of Billerica (1760), returned thanks.

[1808.]

31 August, attended my 24th Commencement.

The day was exceedingly dusty, as there had been but a small shower for 4 weeks.

The performances in the house, taken together, were inferior to what they often are.

Groce² distinguished himself in a forensick.

Norton's³ Latin dissertation was above mediocrity.

Alden⁴ did well in an English conference.

Sanger's⁵ concluding oration, on Candour, was well written and well delivered.

The valedictory for the Master's degree was unusually popular, by Wm. Crafts.⁶

This class originally consisted of 62. Of these the following were dismissed in the rebellion of 1807⁷ . . .

¹ Of the nine members of the senior class named by Dr. Pierce as having been dropped on account of the rebellion, six afterward received the degree of Master of Arts, — the last in 1838. The names of the other three are not in the Quinquennial Catalogue.

² Nahum H. Groce, born in Sterling, Dec. 8, 1781; died in Westford, March 14, 1856. His theme was, "Whether Scientific Pursuits disqualify a Person in any Degree for the Ordinary Business of Life?" The other disputant was Samuel E. Smith, born in Hollis, N. H., March 12, 1788; died in Wiscasset, Me., March 3, 1860.

³ Richard C. Norton, born in Weymouth, March 12, 1790; died in Alexandria, Va., Oct. 13, 1821. His subject was "History."

⁴ Dr. Ebenezer Alden, born in Randolph, March 17, 1788; died there, Jan. 26, 1881. His part was on "The Influence of Reason, Natural Temperament, and Circumstances in determining the Opinions of Men."

⁵ Rev. Ralph Sanger, D.D., born in Duxbury, June 22, 1786; died in Cambridge, May 6, 1860.

⁶ Of the class of 1805.

⁷ Of the nine students here named, one received his degree in 1866, and another in 1867; one graduated in the class of 1809 and took the degree of A.M. in course; one was not restored to the class list, but received the honorary degree of M.D. in 1850. The other five names are not in the Quinquennial Catalogue.

Dined in the hall. Saw but 3 classmates.

Sang St. Martin's in the usual psalm, "Give ear, my people," &c.

The oldest clergyman at Commencement was Dr. Cushing, of Waltham. He was graduated in 1748.

In the hall the Pres. asked the blessing, and Dr. Cumings returned thanks.

[1809.]

30 Aug. At my 25th Commencement.

The Latin oration by Parkman¹ was very well delivered.

The forensick by Hilliard & Perkins² was ably written.

The poem by Oliver³ was very popular.

The oration by Bird⁴ was worthy his distinguished talents.

Mr. Thomas delivered a quite interesting oration on "The Importance of Truth."⁵ Candidate for A.M.

After this succeeded the valedictory oration in Latin, by Burroughs.⁶

The exercises in general were uncommonly good. Every performer but one had his part thoroughly committed to memory. No one spoke too low to be heard.

After the exercises, instead of dining in the hall as usual, I went with my wife to the house provided by Mr. Parkman, where, it was computed, there were 500 persons who dined in one large tent in the fields. The expense of the entertainment must have been at least \$1,000.

Rev. Andrew Lee, Lisbon, Con., D.D. Rev. President Sanders, D.D.

The oldest clergyman at Com. was Rev. Francis Gardner (1755).

Oldest on Catalogue, Phips, *Waldo*, Roberts, 1741.

Alive before me 904 + after me 623 = 1528.

¹ Dr. George Parkman, born in Boston, Feb. 19, 1790; died there, Nov. 23, 1849.

² Rev. Timothy Hilliard (born in Kensington, N. H., Jan. 29, 1786; died in Nashville, N. H., March 13, 1847), and Benjamin Perkins (born in Lynnfield, Nov. 9, 1789; died there, Nov. 17, 1809, less than three months after he graduated). They discussed the question, "Whether the Power of Man be in Proportion to his Knowledge?"

³ Nathaniel K. G. Oliver, born in Boston, Oct. 5, 1790; died in the Chinese Sea, May 22, 1832. His poem was entitled "The Storm."

⁴ Samuel Bird, born in Stoughton, Jan. 27, 1786; died in Charleston, S. C., April 21, 1810. His oration was on "The Refinement of Modern Society compared with that of the Augustan Age."

⁵ John B. Thomas, of the class of 1806, born in Plymouth, July 28, 1787; died there, Dec. 2, 1852.

⁶ Rev. Charles Burroughs, D.D., of the class of 1806, born in Boston, Dec. 27, 1787; died in Portsmouth, N. H., March 5, 1868.

[1810.]

29 Aug. At my 26th Commencement.

Professor Ware presided, and with great propriety.

The performances, which were numerous, continued 4 hours, and were in general well received. Farley¹ distinguished himself in the concluding oration by his good sense and manly sentiments. King,² son of Hon. Rufus King, was very theatrical, and of course highly popular, in his poem.

The degree of D.D. was conferred on Rev. Chs. Stearns, of Lincoln, Rev. Aa. Bancroft, of Worcester, and Rev. Reuben Puffer, of Berlin.

I dined at Parkman's with an immense company, many of them from the Southward.

The Rev. Francis Gardner, of Leominster (grad. 1755), was the oldest clergyman present.

[1811.]

28 Aug. At my 27th Commencement.

Dr. Kirkland officiated, as President, for the first time.

The exercises were unusually acceptable to the literary part of the audience.

Cooper's³ salutatory oration was remarkable for its pure Latinity.

The colloquy by Farnham & Dunkin⁴ was well written & delivered.

The English oration by Frothingham⁵ was written with purity & pronounced with elegance.

Allen⁶ distinguished himself for good sense & sound composition in a philosophical disputation.

¹ Joseph S. Farley, born in Ipswich, Nov. 15, 1790; lost at sea, and starved in 1821. The subject of his oration was "The Character of Commerce."

² James G. King, born in New York, May 8, 1791; died at Highwood, N. J., Oct. 4, 1853. His poem was entitled "The Tyrant."

³ John T. Cooper, born in Machias, Me., June 6, 1792; died in Boston, March —, 1812. "A gentleman of the most promising talents and virtues. His funeral will proceed from the house of the Hon. J. Phillips, in Beacon St., this day at 4 o'clock, p. m." See N. E. Palladium, March 24, 1812.

⁴ John H. Farnham (born in Newburyport, July 22, 1791; died in Salem, Ind., July 10, 1833), and Benjamin F. Dunkin (born in Medford, Dec. 2, 1793; died in Charleston, S. C., Dec. 6, 1874). Their theme was "The Influence of the Multiplication of Books on the Interests of Literature and Science."

⁵ Rev. N. L. Frothingham, D.D., born in Boston, July 23, 1793; died there, April 4, 1870. His oration was "On the Cultivation of the Taste and Imagination." A memoir of Dr. Frothingham, by Frederic H. Hedge, is in Proceedings, vol. xi. pp. 371-386.

⁶ Rev. Joseph Allen, D.D., born in Medfield, August 15, 1790; died in Northborough, Feb. 23, 1873. He had part in a discussion on the question, "Whether the Climate of any Country have undergone any permanent Change?" with George Morey, born in Walpole, June 12, 1789; died in Boston, May 11, 1866.

Wm. P. Mason¹ was popular in a conference.

But the poem by Gilman² was the most universally popular of any performance. It delighted the people of taste. It gratified persons of plain sense. It captivated the multitude.

Everett's³ concluding oration was a sensible, judicious, manly performance.

The oration by Sanger,⁴ for the Master's degree, was too long & too dry after so many fine specimens of taste & judgment.

The new President acquitted himself with great dignity and propriety. His prayers were short. But for style and matter they exceeded all which we have been accustomed to hear on such occasions.

The oldest graduate whom I saw was the Hon. Robert T. Paine (1749).

The oldest clergyman was the Rev. Francis Gardner (1755).

The Rev. Jona. Newell, of Stow, returned thanks in the hall (1770).

A large portion of the company dined either at Mason & Otis's, Gray's, or Dabney's.

The Rev. James Freeman had the degree of D.D.

[1812.]

26 August, I attended my 28th Commencement at Cambridge.

The day was fine. It was intended to enter the meetinghouse at 10 A.M. The Corporation and Overseers arrived at 20 minutes past ten.

The prayer by the President was short, pertinent, and excellent.

S. W. Dexter⁵ and Wainwright⁶ distinguished themselves in conferences.

¹ Born in Boston, Dec. 9, 1791; died there, Dec. 4, 1867. The "conference" was on "The Present Character of the Inhabitants of New England, as resulting from Civil, Literary, and Religious Institutions of our Forefathers." John A. Shaw (born in Bridgewater, Oct. 8, 1792; died there, Oct. 4, 1873) and Moses Hunt (born in Milford, April 13, 1792; died in Roxbury, Oct. 12, 1814) also took part in it.

² Rev. Samuel Gilman, D.D., born in Gloucester, Feb. 16, 1791; died in Kingston, Feb. 8, 1858. The theme of his poem was "The Pleasures and Pains of the Student."

³ Edward Everett, born in Dorchester, April 11, 1794; died in Boston, Jan. 15, 1865. His oration was on "Literary Evils."

⁴ Ralph Sanger, of the class of 1808. His subject was "The Influence of Philosophy on Christianity."

⁵ Born in Charlestown, Feb. 18, 1792; died in Dexter, Mich., Feb. 6, 1863. The subject of the conference in which he took part was "The Influence on Personal Happiness of Natural Temper, Cultivated Taste, External Condition, and Social Intercourse." The other members of the class to whom parts in it were assigned were Abraham Harrington (born in Weston, Nov. 16, 1790; died in Hopkinton, August —, 1828), Dr. John Homans (born in Boston, Sept. 17, 1793; died there, April 17, 1868), and William S. Andrews (born in Boston, Oct. 12, 1793; died there, May 1, 1872).

⁶ Rev. J. M. Wainwright, D.D., born in Dorchester, Feb. 24, 1792; died in New

An English dissertation by Sprague¹ evinced a luxuriant genius.

Gibbes's² oration was manly.

The English poem, by Ware,³ was received with repeated plaudits.

The valedictory, by Bingaman,⁴ was most distinguished.

Oliver,⁵ candidate for A.M., noticed in his poem the preservation of his classmate Biglow, who was present, from the violence of the Baltimore mob. This part of his exercise was received with reiterated applauses.

The oldest Harvard graduate who was at Commencement, of whom I heard, was the celebrated Dr. Holyoke of Salem (1746). *Æt.* 84.

The oldest clergyman in the hall, and who accordingly returned thanks, was the Rev. Joseph Willard, of Boxborough (1765).

I dined in the hall. The students did not wait, as formerly. The President called on me to set the tune (St. Martin's) 2^d time.

Catalogues were printed this year. For the last 3 years there have died, according to my computation, 80 sons of Harvard.

Rev. Paul Coffin, Buxton, & B^p Griswold, Bristol, R. I., D.D.

[1813.]

25 August, I attended my 29th Commencement.

The day was cool; but it was very dry and dusty.

The procession moved into the meetinghouse precisely at 10.

The salutatory oration was decent; but it contained this barbarism, "vos, qui adsunt." J. A. Haven.⁶

The French oration by Appleton⁷ was in the true French style and manner.

York, Sept. 21, 1854. His associates were George Parker (born in Bradford, May 30, 1791; died in Baltimore, Md., Sept. 30, 1825), Dr. Amos Nourse (born in Bolton, Dec. 17, 1794; died in Bath, Me., April 7, 1877), and Dr. Ezekiel Thaxter (born in Abington, July 22, 1787; died there, Oct. 11, 1856). Their theme was "Novelty, Sublimity, Beauty, and Harmony, as Sources of Gratification."

¹ Hon. Peleg Sprague, born in Duxbury, April 28, 1793; died in Boston, Oct. 13, 1880. His part was "On the Causes of the Superiority of Character in Modern Europe."

² Rev. Allston Gibbes, born in Charleston, S. C., Feb. 14, 1793; died in Philadelphia, Penn., July 8, 1851. His topic was "The Influence of Criticism on Literature."

³ Rev. Henry Ware, Jr., D.D., born in Hingham, April 21, 1794; died in Framingham, Sept. 22, 1843. His poem was on "The Pursuit of Fame." A memoir of Mr. Ware, by Charles C. Smith, is in *Proceedings*, vol. ii. pp. 278-282.

⁴ Adam L. Bingaman, born in Natchez, Miss., Feb. 11, 1793; died in New Orleans, La., Sept. 6, 1869. His subject was "The Influence of the Arts and Sciences on Civil Liberty."

⁵ N. K. G. Oliver, of the class of 1809. His part was an "Ode to Fancy."

⁶ Born in Portsmouth, N. H., May 16, 1792; died in New York, Dec. 13, 1875.

⁷ John J. Appleton, born in Calais, France, Sept. 22, 1792; died in Rennes, France, March 4, 1864. His oration was "Sur le Génie de Molière."

Savage¹ spoke well in a Latin oration.

Spooner² was highly popular in a deliberative discussion.

Warren,³ son of Dr. Warren, did well.

The part in a conference by Holley⁴ was well received.

Brazer⁵ distinguished himself, as was expected, in the concluding oration.

I dined at Parkman's with, I suppose, 350.

In the hall the Rev. Dr. Parsons, 1771, of Amherst, returned thanks.

Rev. John Allyn, D.D. Rev. Thaddeus M. Harris, D.D.

[1814.]

I was, on 31 August, at my 30th Commencement at Harvard University.

The day was fine. The exercises began at 10½ & concluded at 3¼.

The salutatory oration, by Quash,⁶ did him honour.

Bigelow⁷ did well in a forensick, as did Dalton⁸ in a colloquy,

¹ Rev. Thomas Savage, born in Boston, Sept. 2, 1793; died in Bedford, N. H., May 8, 1866.

² William J. Spooner, born in Boston, April 15, 1794; died there, Oct. 17, 1824. The proposition assigned to him for discussion was "That the Tendency of Federal Governments is rather to Anarchy among the Members than Tyranny in the Head." In this discussion Charles Folsom (born in Exeter, N. H., Dec. 24, 1794; died in Cambridge, Nov. 8, 1872) had a part. A memoir of Mr. Spooner is in 3 Collections, vol. i. pp. 265-271; and a memoir of Mr. Folsom, by Theophilus Parsons, is in Proceedings, vol. xiii. pp. 26-42.

³ Henry Warren, born in Boston, May 13, 1795; died in New York, July 6, 1869. His part was a dissertation "On the Probable Progress of the Physical Sciences."

⁴ Orville L. Holley, born in Salisbury, Conn., May 19, 1791; died in Albany, N. Y., March 25, 1861. The conference was on "Patronage, Personal Necessity, Desire of Fame, and Love of the Pursuit, as Incentives to Literary Exertion." The other members of the class who took part in it were Rev. Rufus Hurlbut (born in Southampton, April 21, 1787; died in Sudbury, Feb. 26, 1839), Dr. Winslow Warren (born in Plymouth, Jan. 14, 1795; died there, June 10, 1870), and Dr. Benjamin Huger (born in Charleston, S. C., March 20, 1793; died there, August 27, 1874).

⁵ Rev. John Brazer, D.D., born in Worcester, Sept. 21, 1789; died in Charleston, S. C., Feb. 26, 1846. His subject was "The Influence of Fiction."

⁶ Francis D. Quash, born in Charleston, S. C., Dec. 19, 1793; died there, Feb. 17, 1857.

⁷ Rev. Andrew Bigelow, D.D., born in Groton, May 7, 1795; died in Boston, April 1, 1877. John Walsh (born in Newburyport, July 23, 1794; died in St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 14, 1845) took part with him in a forensic disputation on the question "Whether the Choice of a Representative should be restricted to the Inhabitants of the Town or District represented?"

⁸ Dr. John C. Dalton, born in Boston, May 30, 1795; died there, Jan. 8, 1864. The colloquy was "On the Comparative Value of Cotemporary and Posthumous

Flint¹ in a disputation, Derby² in a colloquy, S. Dexter Bradford³ in a discussion, & Prescott⁴ in a Latin poem "Ad Spem."

The palm of excellence seemed generally to be allowed to Lamson⁵ in a dissertation.

Everett,⁶ for the Master's degree, answered all reasonable expectations. Frothingham⁷ was chaste & acceptable.

We dined in the new hall for the first time. I set St. Martin's, 3^d time. Rev. Daniel Fuller, 1764, returned thanks. Rev. Joseph Sumner, Rev. Jacob Burnap, Rev. Nath. Porter, Rev. Henry Frederick Quitman, D.D.

N. B. Oldest minister, Rev. Peter Whitney. (1762.)

Oldest man at Commencement Henry Hill (1756). Saw classmates Adams, Hilliard I., Jackson, Whitney, & Wigglesworth.

[1815.]

30 August, I attended my 31st Commencement at Cambridge.

The day was clear, but unusually hot.

Watson⁸ wrote and spoke well in a conference, as did Briggs.⁹

Fame." Francis A. Blake (born in Worcester, April 4, 1796; died in New York, March 22, 1824) took part in it.

¹ Waldo Flint, born in Leicester, Sept. 4, 1794; died in Boston, March 6, 1879. The subject under discussion was "The Causes of the Variety of Complexion and Figure in the Human Species." The other disputant was John Allyn, born in Duxbury, June 24, 1794; died there, March 7, 1824.

² George Derby, born in Salem, August 16, 1794; died at sea, August 26, 1818. He had part in a colloquy on "The Evils of Anarchy and Arbitrary Government," with Isaac E. Cobb, born in Plymouth, Jan. 19, 1791; died on a voyage from Charleston, S. C., to Boston, in January, 1821. See N. E. Palladium, Feb. 2, 1821.

³ Born in West Roxbury, Nov. 6, 1795; died there, Dec. 18, 1865. Edmund Kimball (born in Newburyport, Dec. 3, 1793; died in Wenham, Nov. 7, 1873) took part with him in a discussion "On the Policy of Encouraging Manufacturing Establishments in the United States."

⁴ William H. Prescott, born in Boston, May 4, 1796; died there, Jan. 28, 1859. See Proceedings, vol. iv. pp. 167-196; vol. vii. p. 298.

⁵ Rev. Alvan Lamson, D.D., born in Weston, Nov. 18, 1792; died in Dedham, July 18, 1864. His theme was "Imagination and Sensibility as affected by the Age of the Individual." A memoir of Dr. Lamson, by Andrew P. Peabody, is in Proceedings, vol. xi. pp. 258-262.

⁶ Edward Everett, of the class of 1811. His part was an oration "On the Restoration of Greece."

⁷ Rev. N. L. Frothingham, D.D., of the class of 1811. He had the valedictory in Latin.

⁸ Rev. John L. Watson, D.D., born in Boston, August 27, 1797; died in Orange, N. J., August 12, 1884. The subject of the conference was "The Power of the Oriental, Gothic, and Classical Superstitions to affect the Imagination and Feelings." The others who took part in it were Rev. Stevens Everett (born in Dorchester, Dec. 14, 1797; died there, Feb. 20, 1833) and Pelham W. Warren (born in Plymouth, Jan. 14, 1797; died in Boston, Oct. 6, 1848).

⁹ Rev. Charles Briggs, born in Halifax, Jan. 17, 1791; died in Roxbury, Dec.

Pickman's¹ intermediate Latin oration was good.

Howe² did well in a forensick.

Eliot's³ Latin poem, "Ad Pacem," was well received.

Fuller⁴ excited loud applauses from the notice he took of the deposed imperial despot of France.

Palfrey⁵ delivered a neat and well-spoken oration.

Francis's⁶ dissertation was respectable.

But Warner,⁷ in the concluding oration, was the most acceptable to the discerning part of the audience.

Sprague,⁸ in an oration for the second degree, defended war by arguments sophistical and horrible.

There was less wit than usual in the exercises of the day. But in point of good composition, good sense, and pleasing elocution, they will sustain an honourable comparison with the performances on similar occasions.

The oldest alumnus at Com. of whom I heard was Mr. Henry Hill (1756); oldest minister, Peter Whitney (1762).

The President asked the blessing, and Rev. Geo. Morey (1776), of Walpole, gave thanks.

The degree of D.D. was conferred on the Rev. William Shaw, of Marshfield, Rev. John Foster, of Brighton, and the Rev. John S. Popkin, of Newbury.

Of my classmates I saw only Hilliard I., Lowell, & Whitney.

17, 1873. He had a part in a conference on "Pastoral, Epic, and Dramatic Poetry," with Dr. Thaddeus W. Harris (born in Dorchester, Nov. 12, 1795; died in Cambridge, Jan. 16, 1856) and Joseph H. Mackay (born in Boston, Jan. 15, 1797; died there, Jan. 11, 1820).

¹ H. D. Pickman, born in Salem, March 11, 1796; died in Boston, Oct. 22, 1815. His subject was "De Civium Officiis in Republica."

² Dr. Appleton Howe, born in Hopkinton, Nov. 26, 1792; died in South Weymouth, Oct. 10, 1870. He had a part in a discussion on "The Materiality of Light," with Dr. Samuel Webber, born in Cambridge, Sept. 15, 1797; died in Charlestown, N. H., Dec. 5, 1880.

³ William H. Eliot, born in Boston, Dec. 12, 1796; died there, Dec. 6, 1821.

⁴ Elisha Fuller, born in Princeton, Oct. 28, 1794; died in Worcester, March 18, 1855. He took part in a deliberative discussion of the question, "Is the Preservation of the Balance of Power a Justifiable Cause of War?" with Rev. George Otis, born in Newburyport, July 14, 1797; died in Cambridge, Feb. 25, 1828.

⁵ John Gorham Palfrey, born in Boston, May 2, 1796; died in Cambridge, April 26, 1881. His theme was "Republican Institutions as affecting Private Character."

⁶ Rev. Convers Francis, D.D., born in West Cambridge, Nov. 9, 1795; died in Cambridge, April 7, 1863. His subject was "Simplicity and Ornament in Writing." A memoir of Dr. Francis, by William Newell, is in *Proceedings*, vol. viii. pp. 233-253.

⁷ William A. Warner, born in Hardwick, May 26, 1795; died in Boston, Dec. 22, 1830. His subject was "Imagination as affecting Individual Happiness."

⁸ Peleg Sprague, of the class of 1812.

I dined in a tent prepared for the company of Samuel Eliot, Esq., where, I suppose, were 500 guests.¹ It was by far the most splendid dinner I have ever witnessed on a similar occasion.

Rev. Joshua Bates set the tune in the hall.

Since last Catalogue 118 sons of Harvard, according to my computation, have died.

Oldest man on the Catalogue, Joseph Waldo (1741).

At the printing of the Catalogue there were alive before me 753 + after me 910 = 1564 alive.

[1816.]

28 Aug. Attended my XXXII^d Commencement. The day was cloudy and cool, the coldest occasion of the kind which I have ever attended. Some wore great coats & cloaks.

Salutatory oration, by Perry,² was finely written & delivered. Clark³ & Tyng's⁴ forensick was well managed, especially by the latter.

Pearson's⁵ dissertation was ingenious, well delivered, & generally acceptable.

Proctor's⁶ philosophical inquiry was a happy specimen of philosophical investigation.

But the concluding oration, by Gardiner,⁷ *supereminuit omnes*. It was a manly and ingenious defence of classical literature finely delivered.

Brazer,⁸ in the oration for the Master's degree, would have appeared better were he not, through the whole of the delivery, in an agony of recollection. This was occasioned by his committing his oration imperfectly to memory; and it imparted a portion of his sufferings to the audience, who could not but sympathize with him.

¹ At an expense, it is said by Rev. Dr. Parkman, of \$2,500. — *Note by Dr. Pierce.*

² Samuel Perry, born in New Bedford, April 26, 1795; died in Havana, May 7, 1821.

³ John Clark, born in Waltham, March 16, 1796; died in Salem, Jan. 28, 1851. He had a part with Dudley A. Tyng in discussing the question "Whether the Prevalence of Despotism in Asia be occasioned principally by Physical Causes?"

⁴ Oldest son of Dudley Atkins Tyng, LL.D. In 1817 he was allowed to take the name of Dudley Atkins. He was born in Newburyport, became a physician, and died in Brooklyn, N. Y., April 7, 1845, æt. 47.

⁵ Henry B. Pearson, born in Cambridge, March 29, 1795; died in Boston, June 29, 1867. He compared and contrasted Milton and Homer.

⁶ John W. Proctor, born in Danvers, July 30, 1791; died in Peabody, Nov. 26, 1874. His subject of inquiry was "The Probable Disposition and Mutual Relation of the Fixed Stars."

⁷ William H. Gardiner, born in Boston, Oct. 29, 1796; died there, Feb. 16, 1882. His subject was "The Comparative Importance of Classical and Scientific Attainments."

⁸ Rev. John Brazer, D.D., of the class of 1813. His theme was "The Durability of our Political Institutions."

The oldest person whom I saw at Commencement who was a graduate of Cambridge was Henry Hill, Esq. (1756). The oldest clergyman was Rev. Daniel Fuller. Rev. R. R. Eliot, of Watertown, returned thanks in the hall. I set the tune, St. Martin's, 4th time. At this Com^t I sat on the stage for the first time as Overseer. Saw 2 classmates only, Adams & Whitney. It was the coldest Com^t I ever attended. There were but 24 clergymen, sons of Harvard, whom I saw, older than myself.

D.D., Benjamin Wadsworth, 1769; Ezra Ripley, 1776.

N. B. Of graduates at Cambridge 720 are alive before me, 957 after me.

[1817.]

27 Aug. Attended my XXXIII^d Commencement at Cambridge.

The day was fine.

The exercises commenced precisely at 10 A. M.

Thompson¹ was highly popular in a conference on agriculture.

Warren² was acceptable in a literary discussion on the alleged improvement in composition since Queen Anne.

Jones³ delivered a good intermediate Latin oration.

Child⁴ and Woods⁵ gave a fine forensick on the question, "Whether the Power of Eloquence be diminished by the Progress of Literature and Science?"

Bancroft's⁶ oration on the philosophy of the human mind did him great honour.

Cummings,⁷ on the expediency of a national university, was sensible and chaste.

¹ Thomas Thompson, born in Boston, August 27, 1798; died in New York, March 28, 1869. The conference was on "The Beneficial Effects of Mechanicks, Chemistry, Astronomy, and Agriculture." The other members of the class who took part in it were Penuel Corbett (born in Milford, March 8, 1789; died in Jerseyville, Ill., May 1, 1878), Dr. John D. Wells (born in Boston, March 6, 1799; died there, July 25, 1830), and Jonathan H. Cobb (born in Sharon, July 8, 1799; died in Dedham, March 12, 1882).

² Charles H. Warren, born in Plymouth, Sept. 29, 1798; died there, June 29, 1874. The other disputant was Samuel E. Sewall, born in Boston, Nov. 9, 1799; died in Boston, Dec. 20, 1888. A memoir of Judge Warren, by Winslow Warren, is in *Proceedings*, vol. xix. pp. 424-428.

³ Rev. Joseph H. Jones, D.D., born in Coventry, Conn., August 24, 1797; died in Philadelphia, Penn., Dec. 22, 1868.

⁴ David Lee Child, born in West Boylston, July 8, 1794; died in Wayland, Sept. 18, 1874.

⁵ Rev. Alva Woods, D.D., born in Shoreham, Vt., August 13, 1794; died in Providence, R. I., Sept. 6, 1887.

⁶ George Bancroft.

⁷ Rev. Asa Cummings, D.D., born in Andover, Sept. 29, 1790; died at sea, June 5, 1856.

The concluding oration of the Bachelors, by Winthrop,¹ was well written, but delivered so feebly as to be heard by a small part of the audience only.

Porter,² in his Master's oration, manifested a sound understanding, good composition, & respectable oratory.

Quash³ made perhaps the best appearance, in his valedictory oration, of any one this day. But in his pronunciation he twice blundered in prosody in the word which he called "retinëre."

Large entertainments were given by Winthrop, Coolidge, & Salisbury. The latter invited my family. I dined in the hall. Rev. Isaac Smith (1767) returned thanks. He was the oldest clergyman whom I saw at Commenc^t. The oldest Cambridge graduate was Dr. E. A. Holyoke, of Salem (1746), the third in the Catalogue now alive. *Æt.* 89.

Saw 51 clergymen who were alumni; of these but 21 were before me at college.

Of Cambridge graduates there are, according to my computation, alive before me $670 +$ after me $1062 + 1 = 1733$ remaining alive.

I heard of but 2 classmates at Com^t, Whitney & Wigglesworth. I set the tune (St. Martin's) 5th time, in the hall.

Rev. Dan^l Chaplin & Nath. Thayer, D.D.

[1818.]

26 Aug., 1818, at my XXXIVth Commencement at Cambridge.

There having been only small showers for 5 weeks, it was exceedingly dusty.

The exercises commenced at 10 $\frac{1}{4}$. This tardiness was owing to the number of strangers who attended.

The salutatory, by Jenkins,⁴ was respectable.

Ezekiel H. Derby⁵ was acceptable as a speaker.

¹ Francis William Winthrop, born in Boston, May 31, 1799; died in Savannah, Ga., March 7, 1819. His theme was "The Aspect of Revolutions on the Advancement of the Mind."

² Jonathan Porter, of the class of 1814, born in Medford, May 27, 1791; died there, June 11, 1859. His subject was "The Decline of Poetry."

³ Francis D. Quash, of the class of 1814.

⁴ John F. Jenkins, born in Gloucester, Feb. 6, 1796; died in White Plains, N. Y., Sept. 12, 1862.

⁵ Born in Salem, July 30, 1799; died in Boston, Nov. 14, 1839. He had a part in a conference on "The Associations excited by Visiting Italy, Greece, Egypt, and Palestine considered with reference to their Ancient History." The others who took part in it were John Hooker Ashmun (born in Blandford, July 3, 1800; died in Cambridge, April 1, 1833), Henry A. Peters (born in Andover, August 5, 1800; died there, August 8, 1827), and Robert B. G. Williams (born in Boston, Oct. 25, 1797; died there, Nov. 6, 1829).

There was a Spanish oration by Osborn,¹ the first part of the kind ever delivered.

Wilkins's² dissertation was judicious.

Bennett³ spoke with great force and propriety.

Warren Goddard⁴ was very well received in his discussion.

Everett,⁵ on the character of *Byron*, outshone the whole class.

Reed's⁶ dissertation was a manly exercise, although poorly delivered.

The oration by Fessenden,⁷ on the progress of refinement, was very indifferent. It was given to him as the best reciting scholar.

The Master's oration, by Warner,⁸ afforded universal satisfaction.

The valedictory, by Rev. G. Palfrey,⁹ was a specimen of classical and elegant Latinity, and the best spoken of any exercise throughout the day. The performances concluded at 3½.

Though the class consisted of 80, yet fewer entertainments were given than common. There was less disorder, as there were fewer tents on the Common than I ever knew on such an occasion.

I was invited to Warren Goddard's chamber with a number of my

¹ George Osborne, M.D.; born in Salem, Dec. 23, 1798; died in Peabody, Sept. 21, 1882. His oration was on "An Acquaintance with the Spanish Language and Literature." This was after Mr. Ticknor's appointment to a professorship at Cambridge, but before he had entered on the discharge of its duties.

² John H. Wilkins, born in Amherst, N. H., Dec. 10, 1794; died in Boston, Dec. 5, 1861. His part was "A Comparison of the Domestic Life of the Ancient Greeks and Romans and that of our own Countrymen."

³ Rev. Joseph Bennett, born in Framingham, May 13, 1798; died in Woburn, Nov. 19, 1847. He took part in a conference "Upon Architecture, Painting, Poetry, and Music, as tending to produce and perpetuate Religious Impressions." The other members of the class who took part in it were John Barrett (born in Cambridge, June 16, 1799; died there, Nov. 29, 1820), William Emerson (born in Boston, July 31, 1801; died in New York, Sept. 13, 1868), and Thomas Gadsden (born in Philadelphia, May 10, 1796; died in Charleston, S. C., Oct. —, 1871).

⁴ Rev. Warren Goddard, born in Portsmouth, N. H., Sept. 12, 1800; died in Brockton, Oct. 29, 1889. He had a discussion with George Chase (born in Portland, Me., Sept. 20, 1800; died there, Nov. 11, 1819) on "The Use of Heathen Mythology in Modern Poetry."

⁵ John Everett, born in Dorchester, Feb. 22, 1801; died in Boston, Feb. 12, 1826.

⁶ Sampson Reed, born in West Bridgewater, June 10, 1800; died in Boston, July 8, 1880. He had a dissertation "On the Influence of Christianity in producing the Moral and Intellectual Revival of Europe after the Dark Ages."

⁷ Rev. John Fessenden, born in Lexington, March 13, 1794; died in Dedham, May 11, 1871.

⁸ William A. Warner, of the class of 1815. His oration was on "The Condition and Prospects of the American People."

⁹ John Gorham Palfrey, of the class of 1815. He was ordained pastor of the Brattle Street Church, Boston, about two months before the Commencement of 1818.

parishioners. I dined, however, in the hall. The Rev. Dr. Ripley (1776) returned thanks. I set St. Martin's the 6th time.

The oldest clergymen I saw at Commencement were Rev. John Emerson (1764) & Isaac Smith (1767). The oldest graduate, Dr. Jeffries (1763).

I saw 49 clergymen, alumni, of whom 20 were before me at college.

Of Cambridge graduates there are alive before me 660, after me 1046.

Saw 192 Cambridge graduates whom I can recollect. Of the 7 classes with which I was contemporary at college, consisting of 246, saw but 34 members. Four classmates, Adams, Jackson, Whitney, Wigglesworth. I set St. Martin's in the hall, 6th time.

Rev. Wm. Wells, Rev. Noah Worcester, Rev. Hez. Packard, D.D.

[1819.]

25 Aug., 1819, attended my XXXVth Commencement at Cambridge. A fine day. We arrived at the meetinghouse 20 minutes past 10.

A dissertation by Phillips,¹ of Salem, on Literary Reviews was popular.

Snelling² in a conference did well.

Bullard³ in a colloquial discussion was thought by some good judges the best speaker of the day.

But the oration by Lee,⁴ of Virginia, on American feeling excited more lively sensations of sympathy & applause than I ever recollect on a similar occasion. He began in a moderate & unpretending manner. He kept gradually rising in interest, till in fine he had possession of the feelings and interest of the whole audience. Some parts of his oration were highly impassioned, especially when he alluded to the battle of Bunker Hill.

Law's⁵ dissertation was manly.

Steell⁶ did well in the concluding oration.

¹ Stephen C. Phillips, born in Salem, Nov. 4, 1801; died on the St. Lawrence River, June 26, 1857, by the burning of a steamer.

² George H. Snelling.

³ Charles A. Bullard, born in Pepperell, Jan. 24, 1800; died in Natchitoches, La., Nov. 19, 1872. The subject of discussion was "The Comparative Prevalence and Strength of the Principles of Loyalty and Independence in Man."

⁴ Charles C. Lee, born in Williams County, Va., April 2, 1797; died in Windsor, Va., March 21, 1871.

⁵ Edward E. Law, born in New London, Conn., March 11, 1801; died in Philadelphia, Penn., Jan. 1, 1889. His theme was "The Necessity of Public and Private Patronage to the Advancement of Literature in our Country."

⁶ John F. Steell, born in Baltimore, Md., March 2, 1798; died in New York, Oct. —, 1826. His topic was "National Eloquence."

Gardiner,¹ in his Master's oration, would have been better received had he not so closely succeeded Law.

Brooks's² valedictory in Latin was amusing. The salutatory & valedictory orators were the only graduates in either class who wore spectacles.

The performances concluded at 3½, so that we were precisely 5 hours in the house.

No large entertainment was given.

I dined in the hall. The Rev. Huntington Porter (1777), of Rye, N. H., returned thanks.

The oldest graduate & clergyman at Commencement was the Rev. Dr. Marsh, Weathersfield, Con. (1761). He probably wore the last full-bottomed wig which has been seen at Commencement.

I saw the following Cambridge graduates whom I can recollect * . . .

I saw 64 clergymen, alumni, of whom 27 were before me. Of the 7 classes with whom I was contemporary, consisting of 246, I saw 32. Saw but one classmate, Whitney.

I set St. Martin's in the hall, the 7th time, to the usual hymn, "Give ear, my people," &c., sung from time immemorial after dinner.

D.D., Rev. Robert Hall, Leicester, England; Rev. Wm. Bentley, Salem; Rev. James Murdock, Theological Seminary, Andover.

Of Cambridge graduates there are alive before me 645 + after me 1120 + 1 = 1766.

In italicks before me, 158 alive + after me 129 + 1 = 288.

I saw 65 predecessors at Commencement.

I have kept an account of 26 Cambridge graduates who have died since last Commencement⁴ . . .

[1820.]

30 Aug. Attended my XXXVIth Commencement at Cambridge.

The day was fine.

We arrived at the meetinghouse 3 minutes past X.

The salutatory oration in Latin, by Young,⁵ was well written & spoken.

Wm. K. Hedge's⁶ part in a conference was one of the best compositions of the day.

¹ William H. Gardiner, of the class of 1816. His subject was "The Influence of Commerce upon Letters."

² Charles Brooks, of the class of 1816.

³ Dr. Pierce here records 197 names, "65 my seniors."

⁴ Dr. Pierce here gives their names, — "In italicks, 6."

⁵ Rev. Alexander Young, D.D., born in Boston, Sept. 22, 1800; died there, March 16, 1854. A memoir of Dr. Young, by Chandler Robbins, is in 4 Collections, vol. ii. pp. 241-245.

⁶ Born in Cambridge, Oct. 11, 1801; died there, Feb. 26, 1833.

Carter,¹ in opposing the right of legislative bodies to provide by law for the support of religion, was supposed to evince greater intellect than any performer on the occasion.

The Master's oration, by Cushing,² was sensible & delivered *ore rotundo*.

The President was 4 minutes in his first prayer & 2½ in his last.

We left the house 3 minutes past III, so that we were in the house precisely 5 hours.

The assembly was large as usual, though no large entertainments were given.

I dined in the hall. The Rev. Dr. Bancroft, of Worcester (1778), returned thanks.

I was desired by the President to set St. Martin's, the 8th time, to the usual psalm.

The oldest Cambridge graduates whom I saw at Commencement were Hon. Timo. Pickering (1763), Jona. L. Austin (1766), Dr. Samuel Curtis (1766), of Amherst, N. H., Joshua Fisher, M.D. (1766), Wm. Gamage (1767). The oldest clergyman, Rev. Isaac Smith (1767), Boston.

I saw the following Cambridge graduates whom I can recollect³ . . .

Of 246, composing the classes with which I was contemporary, I saw 27.

I saw 58 clergymen, alumni of the College, of whom 16 were before me.

Saw 3 classmates, Jackson, *Whitney*, & Wigglesworth.

D.D., Rev. Asa Messer, Pres., R. I.; Rev. Asa. Eaton; Rev. Wm. E. Channing.

As far as I can ascertain there are alive before me 617 + after me 1168 + 1 = 1786.

In italicks alive before me 153 + after me 131 + 1 = 285.

Officiating settled clergymen before me 96 + after me 112 + 1 = 209.

Saw at Com^t clergymen, alumni, older than myself 20 + younger 46 = 66.

Saw 56 Congregational ministers mentioned in the Register as present incumbents.

Saw 62 of my predecessors.

Since the last Commencement, died Peter Frye, of 1744, viz. Feb., 1820, in London, the day which completed his 97th year.

¹ James G. Carter, born in Leominster, Sept. 7, 1795; died in Chicago, Ill., July 22, 1849.

² Caleb Cushing, of the class of 1817, born in Salisbury, Jan. 17, 1800; died in Newburyport, Jan. 2, 1879. His oration was on "The Durability of the Federal Union."

³ Here follow 205 names.

Also Rev. Nehemiah Porter, of Ashfield, born 2 April, O. S., 1720, died 29 Feb., 1820, lacking 44 days of 100 years.

[1821.]

29 Aug., at my XXXVIIth Commencement, Cambridge.

A. M., cloudy. P. M., clear.

We arrived at the meetinghouse at X.

George Washington Adams,¹ son of J. Q. A., spoke well in a conference on natural scenery.

A literary discussion between Burton² & Quincy,³ on the elegant literature of England & France, was very acceptable.

A dissertation on the effects of tragedy, by Withington,⁴ was sensibly written; but though he is one of the best scholars in the class, his exercise was dull.

Upham's⁵ oration on sacred eloquence was far the most popular performance, though his part was the second in point of honour.

Barnwell's⁶ concluding oration, on the importance of a national literature, &c., was animated & popular.

Reed's⁷ oration on genius, for the Master's degree, was ingenious, but so miserably delivered that it was tedious.

Ten performers failed, mostly, as it is supposed, on account of dissatisfaction with their parts.

The President was 2½ minutes in his first prayer & 2 in the last.

We left the house at II.

No publick entertainment was given.

I dined in the hall. Dr. Porter, 1777, of Roxbury, returned thanks. For the 9th time I set St. Martin's to the usual psalm.

The oldest Cambridge graduate was Hon. Timothy Pickering, 1763.⁸ The 2^d oldest clergyman, Rev. Isaac Smith, 1767.

Saw also⁹ . . .

¹ Born in Berlin, Germany, April 12, 1801; died near New York, April 30, 1829.

² Rev. Warren Burton, born in Wilton, N. H., Nov. 23, 1800; died in Salem June 6, 1866.

³ Josiah Quincy, born in Boston, Jan. 17, 1802; died in Quincy, Nov. 2, 1882.

⁴ Rev. William Withington.

⁵ Charles W. Upham, born in St. John, N. B., May 4, 1802; died in Salem, June 15, 1875. A memoir of Mr. Upham by George E. Ellis is in *Proceedings*, vol. xv. pp. 182-221.

⁶ Robert W. Barnwell, born in Beaufort, S. C., August 10, 1801; died in Columbia, S. C., Nov. 25, 1882.

⁷ Sampson Reed, of the class of 1818.

⁸ I have since heard that Henry Hill, 1756, was present. — *Note by Dr. Pierce.*

⁹ Here follow 242 names, of which the first is Rev. Thomas Lancaster, 1764.

Of the 246 composing the 7 classes with which I was cotemporary, 78 are dead. Of the surviving, saw 27.

I saw 71 clergymen, alumni, of whom 29 are before me.

I saw 2 classmates, Gardner & Whitney.

Saw 71 alumni before me.

D. D., Rev. Abiel Abbot, Beverly; Pres. Allen, Bowd. Col.

According to my computation there are alive before me $569 +$ after me $1201 + 1 = 1771$.

In italicks alive before me $147 +$ after me $145 + 1 = 293$.

Officiating settled clergymen before me $94 +$ after me $132 + 1 = 227$.

Saw at Commencement clergymen, alumni, before me 29, after me 42.

Saw 62 clergymen mentioned in the Register as present incumbents of Congregational churches.

For the first time since the University was founded no theses were published, no theses collectors having been appointed.

[1822.]

28 Aug., at my XXXVIIIth Com^t: Cloudy & dusty; but no rain.

We arrived at the meetinghouse $10\frac{1}{4}$ A. M.

Charles G. Atherton,¹ in a literary discussion on "The Characteristics of English Poetry in the Reigns of Elizabeth & Anne," bore away the palm for fine writing.

Wm. Lincoln's ² poem, "The Land of the Pilgrims," was good.

Geo. A. Goddard,³ in a philosophical disputation, "The Effect of Physical Causes on National Character," was popular.

Sam. M. Worcester's ⁴ oration on enthusiasm was acceptable.

Bent's ⁵ dissertation on moral obligation evinced sound thought.

Wigglesworth's ⁶ concluding oration had merit; but it was less popular than some other parts.

The President was $3\frac{1}{2}$ minutes in his first prayer & 2 in his last.

I dined in the hall. President Holley returned thanks. I assisted in setting the tune the 10th time.

The oldest Cambridge graduate present was Henry Hill (1756). The oldest minister, Rev. Daniel Fuller (1764).

¹ Born in Amherst, N. H., July 4, 1804; died in Manchester, N. H., Nov. 15, 1853.

² Born in Worcester, Sept. 26, 1801; died there, Oct. 5, 1843. A memoir, by Joseph Willard, is in 3 Collections, vol. x. pp. 225-235.

³ Born in Boston, Nov. 15, 1802; died there, May 15, 1845.

⁴ Born in Fitchburg, Sept. 4, 1801; died in Salem, August 16, 1866.

⁵ Rev. Josiah Bent, born in Milton; died in Amherst, Nov. 19, 1839, aged 42.

⁶ Edward Wigglesworth, born in Boston, Jan. 14, 1804; died there, Oct. 15, 1876.

Saw 194 alumni.

Of the 246 composing the 7 classes with which I was cotemporary, 80 are dead. Saw 27 of the survivors.

Of clergymen, alumni, saw ¹ . . .

I saw 5 classmates, Coffin,² Gardner, Jackson, Whitney, Wigglesworth.

D.D., John Cushing; John Pierce; Edward Copleston, Pres. Oriel College, Oxford. "The only writer" (say y^e Edinburgh Reviewers, No. 71, Oct. 1821, p. 254) "of our time who has equally distinguished himself in paths so distant from each other as classical literature, political economy, & metaphysical philosophy."

Alumni alive before me, 561; after me, 1240.

In italicks before me, 137; after me, 150.

Officiating settled clergymen alive before me, 94; after me, 130.

Saw 67, mentioned in the Register, as present incumbents of Congregational churches.

[1823.]

27 August, at my XXXIXth Commencement, Cambridge.

We arrived at the meetinghouse 10 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Stearns's³ salutatory oration was well written & delivered.

Gray's⁴ discussion, "On the Influence of Imagination," &c., was well written, but poorly delivered.

Kendall⁵ did well in a forensick, "Whether Great Inequalities of Private Fortune be favourable to the Accumulation of National Wealth?"

Lunt⁶ in a forensick, "Whether, in point of Morality, the Truth be a Justification of an Alleged Libel on Private Character?" bore the palm in speaking.

Ripley's⁷ concluding oration was fine.

Read,⁸ in his Master's oration, "On the Praises of Plain Eloquence," produced considerable sensation.

¹ Here follow 72 names, "before me 24, after me 48."

² First time for eighteen years.—*Note by Dr. Pierce.*

³ Rev. Samuel H. Stearns, born in Bedford, Mass., Sept. 12, 1801; died in Paris, France, July 15, 1837.

⁴ Dr. Thomas Gray, born in Roxbury, Feb. —, 1803; died in Boston, March 6, 1849.

⁵ Rev. James A. Kendall, born in Plymouth, Nov. 1, 1803; died in Framingham, May 16, 1884.

⁶ Rev. William P. Lunt, D.D., born in Newburyport, April 21, 1805; died in Akabàh, March 21, 1857. A memoir of Dr. Lunt, by Nathaniel L. Frothingham, is in *Proceedings*, vol. iii. pp. 207-213.

⁷ George Ripley, born in Greenfield, Oct. 3, 1802; died in New York, July 4, 1880. His subject was "Genius as affected by Moral Feeling."

⁸ William G. Read, of the class of 1820, born in Charleston, S. C., Sept. 8, 1800; died in Baltimore, Md., April 3, 1846.

The valedictory, by Young,¹ was amusing.

The President was 4 minutes in his introductory prayer & 2½ in the concluding.

I dined in the hall. The President, as usual, asked the blessing. Dr. Ripley (1776) returned thanks.

I set the tune, St. Martin's, to the LXXVIIIth Psalm, "Hear, O my children, to my law," the 11th time.

The oldest Cambridge graduate present was Henry Hill (1756). The oldest clergyman, Rev. Isaac Smith (1747).

Of the 246 composing the 7 classes with which I was cotemporary at college, 81 are dead. I saw of the survivors² . . .

Of my predecessors at college saw³ . . . Of these 21 in italicks. Of these 17 officiating clergymen.

Officiating clergymen after me⁴ . . . $37 + 17 = 54$ officiating clergymen.

Saw 56 present incumbents of Congregational Chhs in this Commonwealth.⁵

Saw 3 classmates, Gardner, Whitney, Wigglesworth.

D.D., Rev. Charles Lowell, Boston; Rev. Moses Stuart, Andover.

Alumni alive before me, 545; after me, 1271; alive, 1817.

In italicks alive before me, 136; after me, 156; total, 293.

Officiating clergymen, alumni, alive before me, 86; after me, 126; total, 213.

[1824.]

On 25 August, 1824, I attended my XLth Commencement at Cambridge.

We were detained from entering the meetinghouse from X to XI.40, by the tardiness of the Governour. At length the cavalcade arrived at University Hall with General La Fayette, who was cordially welcomed by President Kirkland in a neat and peculiarly appropriate address, delivered in the portico in the hearing of a large and mixed multitude. A procession was then formed, which proceeded to the meeting-house amid continual shouts of assembled throngs.

As soon as order was restored, the President made a prayer of 3 minutes.

The salutatory, by Derby,⁶ was good.

¹ Rev. Alexander Young, D.D., of the class of 1820.

² Here follow 28 names.

³ Here follow 59 names.

⁴ The names are given.

⁵ Dr. Pierce recorded their names in a note.

⁶ Elias Hasket Derby, born in Salem, Sept. 24, 1803; died in Boston, March 31, 1880.

The dialogue between Park¹ and Torrey² was amusing.

Whitney³ excited loud plaudits in a deliberative discussion.

The II. oration by Newell,⁴ on early prejudices, was finely written and delivered.

Emerson,⁵ the concluding orator of the Bachelors, did himself great honour; though his speaking was somewhat impeded by an oppressive cold.

Upham,⁶ in an English oration for the II^d degree, was acceptable.

Quincy's⁷ Latin valedictory was appropriate and judicious.

A large portion of the speakers made personal allusions to our distinguished guest. In every instance such allusions were followed by loud shouts, huzzas, and the clapping of hands.

The day was fine. The degree of D.D. was conferred on the Rev. Bezaleel Howard, Rev. John Andrews, and Rev. Joseph Tuckerman.

At nearly V. we left the meetinghouse for the hall, where I dined in company of La Fayette and suite. It was difficult to get accommodations.

The President asked the blessing; and Ezra Ripley, D.D. (Concord), returned thanks, for the 3^d time.

For the 12th time I set St. Martin's to the usual psalm.

The oldest graduate whom I saw was Timothy Pickering (1763); the oldest clergyman, Rev. Daniel Fuller (1764).

Of the 246, composing the 7 classes with which I was cotemporary at college, 86 have died, 5 since the last Catalogue, in 3 years. Of survivors saw 33⁸ . . .

Withers I had not seen since July, 1790, when he was graduated.

Of my predecessors at college, saw, besides the 19 mentioned in 1790, 1791, 1792⁹ . . .

¹ John C. Park, born in Boston, June 10, 1804; died in Newton, April 21, 1889.

² Dr. Augustus Torrey, born in Salem, May 12, 1805; died in Beverly, Nov. 1, 1880. Park and Torrey had a dialogue, in English, on "Modern Inventions and Discoveries."

³ Rev. George Whitney, born in Quincy, July 2, 1804; died in Jamaica Plain, April 2, 1842. The discussion was with Rev. David H. Barlow, on "The Comparative Advantages of Western Africa and Hayti for Colonizing Free Blacks."

⁴ Rev. William Newell, D.D., born in Littleton, Feb. 25, 1804; died in Cambridge, Oct. 28, 1881. A memoir of Dr. Newell, by James Freeman Clarke, is in 2 Proceedings, vol. i. pp. 72-74; but his birthplace is there given incorrectly.

⁵ Edward B. Emerson, born in Boston, April 27, 1805; died in Porto Rico, West Indies, Oct. 1, 1834. His subject was "The Advancement of the Age."

⁶ C. W. Upham, of the class of 1821. His subject was "The Progress of Human Nature."

⁷ Josiah Quincy, of the class of 1821.

⁸ Their names are given.

⁹ Here follow 82 names.

Of these officiating Congregational ministers, 62.

Of present incumbents of Cong. Chhs. accord. to Register,¹ . . .

Alive in Catalogue before me, 509; in italicks, alive before me, 127; of these officiating clergymen, 72; in italicks, alive after me, 159; of these officiating clergymen, 142; whole number in italicks alive, 287; of these officiating clergymen, 215.

[1825.]

On Wednesday, 31 August, I attended my XLIst Commencement at Cambridge.

The day was clear, but exceedingly dusty, as it had not rained for more than a week.

We entered the house at X.3.

The President made an appropriate prayer of about 5 minutes.

The salutatory, by Brigham,² was in an unusually fine style of composition and elocution.

The poem by Hedge,³ on "Ruins of the East," was received with reiterated applauses.

The dissertation by Dwight,⁴ of Springfield, was uncommonly fine.

The oration by Chapman⁵ was well received.

The oration by Wilder⁶ was well written, but poorly delivered.

The valedictory of the Bachelors, by Cunningham,⁷ proved him worthy of the distinction.

The English oration for the Master's degree, by Wigglesworth,⁸ "On the Fine Arts," was an able performance.

The exercises, on the whole, were better than common. There was little or no prompting; and they almost universally spake in an audible

¹ Here follow 68 names.

² Benjamin Brigham, born in Boston; died in Westboro, Sept. 21, 1831, æt. 27.

³ Rev. F. H. Hedge, D.D.

⁴ William Dwight, born in Springfield, April 5, 1805; died in Brookline, Sept. 20, 1880. His dissertation was on "The Efforts now making to perpetuate the Remembrance of Events and Characters in our Revolutionary History."

⁵ Jonathan Chapman, born in Boston, Jan. 23, 1807; died there, May 25, 1848. His theme was "The Patronage expected by Literary Men from the Present Age."

⁶ Frederic Wilder, born in Lancaster; died there, Feb. 5, 1826, æt. 22. "His last illness, it is supposed, was occasioned by leaving a ballroom in a state of perspiration, & walking home, about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile, in his thin dancing shoes, with wet feet, w^{ch} bro't on a sudden & violent cold." (Note by Dr. Pierce, in his copy of the Catalogue of Harvard University, 1824.) The subject of Wilder's oration was "American Scholarship."

⁷ Rev. Francis Cunningham, born in Boston, March 9, 1804; died in Meudon, France, Sept. 7, 1867.

⁸ Edward Wigglesworth, of the class of 1822.

voice. There was less company than is common in the house and elsewhere. The exercises closed at III½.

In the hall the President asked the blessing; and Dr. Holmes (1783, Yale) returned thanks.

For the 13th time I set St. Martin's to the usual psalm.

The degree of D.D. was conferred on James Kendall, Plymouth, Cam., 1796, and on James Flint, Salem, Cam., 1802.

Of those before me, educated at Cambridge, I saw the following¹ . . .

Of 7 classes with me at col., 246; of these have died, 92; since last Commencement 6.

Saw of my contemp ^s at col.	21
Before me	45
In italicks before me	14
Of these officiating clergy	11
After me, in italicks	38
	— 52
Of these officiating clergy	30
	— 41

Marrett I had not seen since July, 1790, when he was graduated.

Of classmates saw 5.

Alive before me, 497; alive in italicks before me, 123; out of office, 42; have colleagues, 12; officiating alone, 69.

[1826.]

On Wednesday, 30 August, I attended my XLII^d Commencement at Cambridge.

The day was uncommonly fine. For the last 20 days it had rained in every one but 3; so that the dust in that sandy soil was completely laid. We entered the house so that the exercises began precisely at X.

The President's prayer was about 3 minutes long, comprehensive and well adapted.

Adams,² in a colloquial discussion on intellectual education, interested the audience by his humour. Of Southworth,³ who defended physical education, it was reported that he was the strongest person in college, having lifted 820 lbs.

Palfrey's⁴ oration on "Moral Sublimity" was considered the best exercise of the Bachelors.

¹ Here follow their names.

² Rev. Nehemiah Adams, D.D., born in Salem, Feb. 19, 1806; died in Roxbury, Oct. 6, 1878.

³ Edward Southworth, born in Pelham, July 3, 1804; died in West Springfield, Dec. 11, 1869.

⁴ Rev. Cazneau Palfrey, D.D., born in Boston, August 11, 1805; died in Cambridge, March 12, 1888.

Putnam,¹ on the ingratitude of Republicks, was ingenious and acceptable.

Leib,² in his dissertation on knowledge, was ingenious in his composition, though ranting in manner.

The concluding oration, by Walker,³ was well written and delivered.

The palm of the day was assigned to Ripley,⁴ English orator of the Masters, on "The Claims of the Age on the Young Men of America." He was 27 minutes long, but highly interesting.

The valedictory, by Stearns,⁵ was well received.

Of classmates saw but four, Jackson, Gardner, Whitney, Wigglesworth.

In the hall, at dinner, the President, as usual, asked the blessing. Rev. Jonathan Homer, 1777, returned thanks. I set St. Martin's to the usual psalm, the 14th time.

D.D. conferred on Rev. Thomas Gray, 1790; Rev. Henry Edes, 1799; Rev. Samuel Willard, 1803.

Of Cantabrigians before me I saw the following⁶ . . .

Of those at Com. before me	47
In italicks before me	20
Officiate	14
In ital. after me	60
Officiate	53
	<hr/>
	67 80

Of 7 classes with me, 246; starred, 92; none since last Com.; saw of Co's, 27; saw pred's, 47.

Other clergymen at Com. not educated at Cam. and mentioned in Mass. Register⁷ . . .

Officiating clergymen at Commencement, 87.

Alive before me, Com., 1826, 473; of these clergymen officiating alone, 60 + having colleagues, 12 + out of office, 46 = alive before me total in italicks, 118; alive after me in italicks, 169 + 1 = whole number in italicks, alive, 288; whole number who officiate alone, 203; who have colleagues, 13; who officiate, 216; whole number, dismissed, who are yet alive, 71.

¹ Rev. George Putnam, D.D., born in Sterling, August 16, 1807; died in Roxbury, April 11, 1878.

² James R. Leib, born Jan. 9, 1806; died in Detroit, Mich., June —, 1843.

³ Timothy Walker, born in Wilmington, Dec. 1, 1802; died near Cincinnati, Ohio, Jan. 15, 1856. The subject of his oration was "The Permanency of Literary Fame."

⁴ George Ripley, of the class of 1823.

⁵ Rev. Samuel H. Stearns, of the class of 1823.

⁶ Here follow their names, and also a list of "Others in Italicks."

⁷ Here follow the names of 16 "Congregationalists" and 4 "Others."

[1827.]

On Wednesday, 29 August, I attended my XLIII^d Commencement at Cambridge.

It having rained through the day on the Monday before, the dust was well laid. The wind was N. W., and the day was delightfully pleasant.

The President, Kirkland, not having recovered from a shock of paralysis, was absent; and Dr. Ware, Professor of Divinity, officiated in his stead.

We entered the meetinghouse at X.20.

Dr. Ware made a pertinent prayer of 6 minutes.

Stearns¹ gave a fine oration, audibly delivered, "On Living in Times of Great Intellectual Excitement."

A deliberative discussion, "On the Comparative Advantages of Politicks & Literature, as Professions in this Country," by Brooks² & Felton,³ was well maintained, particularly by the latter.

But the commemorative oration of the Founders & Benefactors of the University, by Davis,⁴ of Boston, was in a style of excellence, both in composition & delivery, but rarely equalled in this country. It was 25 minutes in length, & received with enthusiastick applause.

The English oration for the Masters, by Emerson,⁵ was a fine specimen of composition & elocution, at the uncommon length of 36 minutes. It was to its disadvantage that it immediately succeeded Davis's, so that it required some time to get the audience sufficiently composed to listen with attention. The result was that it was received with a good degree of *éclat*.

The valedictory in Latin, by Derby,⁶ was an uncommon specimen of pure Latinity. In allusion to the President's engagement to be married, the orator uttered the wish that "Hymen roseas spargat." The oration was 10 minutes long.

¹ Rev. William A. Stearns, D.D., born in Bedford, March 17, 1805; died in Amherst, June 8, 1876.

² William H. Brooks, born in Salem, Jan. 5, 1805; died in Cambridge, March 7, 1877.

³ Cornelius C. Felton, born in West Newbury, Nov. 6, 1807; died in Chester, Penn., Feb. 26, 1862. A memoir of President Felton, by George S. Hillard, is in Proceedings, vol. x. pp. 352-368.

⁴ T. K. Davis, born in Boston, June 20, 1808; died in Somerville, Oct. 13, 1853. "Thomas K. Davis graduated at Harvard College in 1827, first scholar of his class, and was also class orator. He had fine scholarship and brilliant powers, but long before his death was withdrawn by disease from the pursuits of active life." See memoir of Isaac P. Davis, by George T. Davis, in Proceedings, vol. xi. p. 96.

⁵ Edward B. Emerson, of the class of 1824. His oration was on "The Importance of Efforts and Institutions for the Diffusion of Knowledge."

⁶ E. H. Derby, of the class of 1824.

It was about III.30 when the procession moved to the hall.

Dr. Ware asked the blessing; & Dr. Fiske, of West Cambridge (1785), returned thanks.

I set St. Martin's, the 15th time, to the usual psalm.

No D.D. was conferred. The degree of LL.D. was given to Bushrod Washington and Horace Binney.

There was great order preserved in the hall. Indeed, in this respect, there is a manifest improvement in modern times. I saw no appearance of excess in a single instance through the day.

Of Cantabrigians saw the following¹ . . .

At Commencement before me in Cat.	48	
do. in italicks before me, offic.	13	total 17
do. after me, do.	36	do. 45
	<hr/> 49	<hr/> 62
Of 7 classes my contemporaries		246
do. starred		93
do. since last Catalogue		7
Of these 7 classes saw		29
Alive before me, Com. 1827		454
Of these officiating clergymen	83	
do. out of office	28	111
	<hr/> 161	
Officiating clergymen after me	161	
Clergymen after me, out of office	17	178
		<hr/> 1
Total in italicks		290
Total officiating		244
Total <i>ex officio</i>		45

[1828.]

On Wednesday, 27 August, my XLIVth Commencement, at Cambridge.

The day was cool, and it would have been very dusty, but for the watering of the streets by subscription of the inhabitants of Cambridge.

After transacting the usual business in the Library, a procession moved to the meetinghouse precisely at X o'clock.

Dr. Ware, Hollis Professor of Divinity, presiding officer of the day, began the exercises with a prayer of 3 minutes.

Patrick Grant was popular in a colloquial discussion on "The Enthusiast & Matter-of-fact Man."

¹ Here follow several lists of names divided into classes, and with various headings.

McKean¹ did well in a historical dissertation.

The third oration, in English, by Winthrop,² was thought by good judges to be the best exercise of the day.³ It was on "Liberal Principles, as affecting the Strength of Government." It is not a little remarkable that this is the 7th son to whom Lieut.-Gov. Thomas L. Winthrop has given a collegiate education; 5 at Harvard University, 1 at Bowdoin College, & 1 at Columbia College. Francis was graduated at Cambridge in 1817, with the first honours of the class, and began the study of Divinity, but died young.

Emerson's⁴ II. English oration on "Publick Opinion" was very acceptable. 20 min.

The concluding oration by Hillard⁵ was fine. 28 min.

For the Master's degree, Chapman,⁶ on "The Spirit which should accompany our Publick Institutions," did well in an oration of 32 minutes.

Whitman's⁷ valedictory of 5 minutes was humorous, though it contained solemn reflections on the death of 3 classmates, Livermore, Sheafe, & Wilder.

Dr. Ware then gave the degrees. No honorary degrees had been voted. After a short prayer by Dr. Ware we proceeded to the hall for dinner, where Dr. Ware asked the blessing, and Dr. Allyn (1785) returned thanks.

I set St. Martin's, the 16th time, to the LXXVIII. Psalm.

The meetinghouse was less crowded than usual. For the first time for many years no tents were allowed on the Common. The wind was east, which gave an agreeable coolness to the weather. The 3 preceding days had been exceedingly sultry.

After dinner I called at Grant's & Winthrop's chambers, both of whom, particularly the latter, had large parties.

After this I went to Dr. Ware's, and took tea with the large company assembled there.

¹ Henry S. McKean, born in Boston, Feb. 9, 1810; died there, May 17, 1857. His dissertation was on "The Importance of a Popular History, in which the Actions of Men shall be represented according to the Principles of the Christian Religion."

² Robert C. Winthrop.

³ 27 min. — *Note by Dr. Pierce.*

⁴ Charles C. Emerson, born in Boston, Nov. 27, 1808; died in New York, May 9, 1836.

⁵ George S. Hillard, born in Machias, Me., Sept. 22, 1808; died in Brookline, Jan. 21, 1879. A memoir of Mr. Hillard, by Francis W. Palfrey, is in *Proceedings*, vol. xix. pp. 339-348.

⁶ Jonathan Chapman, of the class of 1825.

⁷ Rev. Jason Whitman, of the class of 1825, born in East Bridgewater, April 30, 1799; died in Portland, Me., Jan. 25, 1848.

In addition to the Governour and Suite, the Lieut. Gov., Council & Senate, the President of the United States honoured the day with his presence, the first time for several Commencements ¹ . . .

Of Cantabrigians I saw the following ² . . .

Besides the aforementioned I saw the following Cantabrigians whose names are in italicks ³ . . .

Besides the above, saw of present incumbents of churches mentioned in the Massachusetts Register ⁴ . . .

13 Orthodox clergymen present.

Of Cantabrigians I saw at Com. predecessors	46	
Of these in italicks	offic. 10	not of. 5 = 15
Before me do.	do. 35	do. 10 = 45
	<u>45</u>	<u>15</u> <u>60</u>

Of my cotemporary 7 classes there were 246

do. starred 95

Since last Commencement do. 2

Of these 7 classes I saw at Com. 24; viz. 7 clergymen, 17 laymen = 24.

By computation there are alive before me, 434

Of these officiating clergymen	60	
do. out of office	47	107
Officiating clergymen after me	<u>159</u>	
do. out of office	29	188
	<u>1</u>	

Total of., 219; out of office, 76 + 1 296

Saw at Com. but 4 classmates, *Fletcher*,⁵ Gardner, Jackson, Whitney.

Of strangers of distinction not before mentioned, there were present Mr. Stevenson, of Virginia, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States; Mr. Carter, member of Cong. from S. C.; Mr. Kittera, from Phil.; Mr. Tucker, Principal of Virginia University; Mr. McVickar, Prof. Columbia College, N. Y.; & Mr. Gibbs, Professor at Yale.

¹ President Adams was formally invited to attend the Commencement exercises in 1826, but he declined on the ground that he should also decline to attend the Commencements at Bowdoin College and at Princeton College, to both of which he had already been invited. However, "next year or at some other time," he hoped "to accept the proffered kindness of the Corporation." See Memoirs of J. Q. Adams, vol. vii. p. 145.

² Dr. Pierce records their names, under the headings "Predecessors," "Contemporaries."

³ Forty-two names, beginning with 1797 and ending with 1822, are given.

⁴ Nine names are given.

⁵ The first time for 28 years. — Note by Dr. Pierce.

[1829.]

On Wednesday, 26 August, I attended my XLVth Commencement; namely, every one beginning with 1784, excepting 1791, on which day my mother was buried. Pres. Quincy officiated I time.

The day was delightfully cool and pleasant, there having been copious showers on the previous Monday.

Owing to the lateness of the Governour's arrival we did not arrive at the meetinghouse till X.30.

The Rev. Dr. Porter, of the Corporation, began with a prayer of 10 minutes.

Channing¹ was acceptable in a colloquy on "An Active Profession as injuring or assisting the Efforts of Literary Men."

Phillips² did well in an essay on "Incorporating Historical Truth with Fiction."

Brigham³ defended well his part in a philosophical discussion on Lord Bacon's writings.

Holmes⁴ gave much delight in a poem without a subject.

The forensick between Giles⁵ and Robbins⁶ was ably handled by both parties. The latter was the best speaker who exhibited in his class.

Devereux,⁷ on "Originality of Thought, supposed to be necessarily lessened as the World grows Older," a dissertation, was ingenious and striking.

The concluding oration, by Storow,⁸ was decently written, but, as he is an indifferent speaker, the length of 29 minutes appeared tedious.

Walker's⁹ English oration for the Master's degree, on "Literary Justice," was truly a masterly oration, just in sentiment, chaste in composition, and in elocution transcendent.

¹ Rev. William H. Channing, born in Boston, May 25, 1810; died in London, England, Dec. 23, 1884.

² George W. Phillips, born in Boston, Jan. 3, 1810; died in Saugus, July 30, 1880.

³ William Brigham, born in Grafton, Sept. 6, 1806; died in Boston, July 9, 1869. A memoir of Mr. Brigham, by Chandler Robbins, is in *Proceedings*, vol. xiii. pp. 280, 281.

⁴ Dr. O. W. Holmes.

⁵ Joel Giles, born in Townsend, May 6, 1804; died there, Jan. 12, 1882. The forensic in which Giles and Robbins took part was on the question, "Whether the Inequalities of Genius in different Countries be owing to Moral Causes?"

⁶ Rev. Chandler Robbins, D.D., born in Lynn, Feb. 14, 1810; died in Boston, Sept. 11, 1882. A memoir of Dr. Robbins, by Charles C. Smith, is in *Proceedings*, vol. xx. pp. 403-417.

⁷ George H. Devereux, born in Salem, Dec. 1, 1809; died there, Oct. 24, 1878.

⁸ Charles S. Storow. His oration was on "The Diversities of Character."

⁹ Timothy Walker, of the class of 1826.

The valedictory, by Page,¹ was beautifully written, but spoken too low; and as he began it at 3½, 12 minutes seemed too long.

Dr. Porter closed with a prayer of 5 minutes.

The degree of D.D. was given to President Wayland; of LL.D. to Judge Cranch; of A.M. to Charles Sprague & Daniel Treadwell.

No seats, as usual, were reserved for the clergy, which rendered the situation of those who were not admitted upon the stage precarious and uncomfortable.

There were also no seats reserved for the graduates of the day. This produced some confusion.

The house was full as common on such occasions.

In the hall the Rev. Dr. Porter, as Chaplain of the day, asked the blessing; and the Rev. Dr. Prince, of Salem (1776,) the oldest clergyman present, returned thanks.

I set the tune, St. Martin's, the 17th time, to the LXXVIII. Psalm. Tho I set it without an instrument, yet it was exactly in tune with the instruments which assisted us.

I asked the President how much of the psalm we should sing? Judge Story replied, Sing it all. We accordingly, contrary to custom, sang it through, without omitting a single stanza.

It was remarked that the singing was never better. But as the company are in 4 different rooms, it will be desirable on future occasions to station a person in each room to receive and communicate the time, so that we may all sing together, or keep time, as musicians express it.

After dinner I visited the company of Robbins, in Porter's tavern; of Devereux and Phillips, in Holworthy.

My classmate Fletcher returned with me, and spent the night, with his daughter.

Of seniors and cotemporaries at college I saw the following² . . .

Others in italicks in our Catalogue³ . . .

Saw of clergymen, before me	10 of.	7 not of. = 17
Saw of clergymen, after me	44 of.	8 not of. = 52
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	54 of.	15 not of.

Tot. clerg. at Com. 69; others, 19; clergy present, 88.

10 Orthodox clergymen present.

Of the clergy present from all colleges, 20 my seniors, 68 my juniors.

¹ John H. W. Page, of the class of 1826, born in Gilmanton, N. H., Oct. 4, 1804; died in Boston, June 14, 1865.

² Their names are given in two lists.

³ Here follow two more lists.

Of Cantabrigians I saw at Commencement 46 predecessors; of these 17 in italicks, 10 of. 7 not officiating.

In my contemporary 7 classes, 246; starred, 97.

Two, *Chandler*, 1790, *Bradstreet*, 1795, last year.

Of the 7 classes, I saw 27 at Com., viz. 8 in italicks, 19 not in italicks.

By computation alive before me	407		
Of these officiating clergymen	34		
do. out of office	41		
do. doubtful	21	96	
Have colleagues	5		
Officiating clergymen after me	147		
out of office	41		
doubtful	4	192	
Have colleagues	1	1	1
Total	6	193	289
Total of. 182, out 82, doubtful 25			289

Saw at Com. 4 classmates, *Fletcher*, *Gardner*, *Muzzy*, *Whitney*.

[1830.]

On Wednesday, 25 August, I attended my XLVI. Commencement.

The day was cool and comfortable, the wind blowing from the north and north east; and though it was cloudy so that the sun was not seen throughout the day, yet there was no rain.

Of the Corporation, consisting of 7, 2 were absent, viz., Dr. Porter, who was indisposed, and Hon. Francis C. Gray, who is in Europe.

The Board of Overseers, when full, consists of 83 members. There are now 80, of whom 40 are Cambridge scholars. There were 34 present, of whom were the Governour, Levi Lincoln, the Lieutenant Governor, Thomas L. Winthrop, and 8 of the 9 Councillors. Of the 34, 25 were Cambridge scholars, and 12 clergymen.

The exercises commenced in the meetinghouse at 16 minutes past X, with a prayer by Dr. Ware, of 4 minutes, in which, as Dr. Codman remarked, there was no allusion to the Saviour, or his religion.

The salutatory oration, in Latin, by Andrews,¹ of 8 minutes, was well written and spoken.

Jewett² and Kerr³ were most distinguished in the conferences.

¹ Benjamin H. Andrews, born in Boston, 1811; died in Philadelphia, Sept. 24, 1847.

² Isaac A. Jewett, born in Burlington, Vt., 1809; died in Keene, N. H., Jan. 14, 1853.

³ John B. Kerr, born in Easton, Md., March 5, 1805; died Jan. 27, 1878. Jewett and Kerr took part in a conference with John Bryant and Charles Sumner

An English oration, III^d in honour, on "The Character and Prospects of the State of New York," 29 minutes in length, was the most popular performance of the day. Charlemagne Tower,¹ the orator, is the son of a Mr. Tower, native of Rutland, in this State. The young man was born in Paris, Oneida County, N. Y. His mother was a *Pearce*, from a family in Little Compton, R. I.

Stearns,² son of the Rev. Samuel S., of Bedford, had the II^d oration. It was on "Mutation of Taste," & was a respectable performance. This is the 3^d son of Mr. S. educated at Cambridge, and each one has been among the first 3 of his class.

The Ist & concluding oration, by Hopkinson,³ failed by his sudden indisposition. As it often happens, he and Stearns, the two first scholars, were beneficiaries.

The oration in English for the Master's degree was by Davis,⁴ 40 minutes in length, on "Every Man a Debtor to his Profession." It contained many striking thoughts, some of them quaintly written, and delivered in a manner wholly unique.

The valedictory, by Dixwell,⁵ of 10 minutes was respectable.

Dr. Ware closed with a short prayer, in the name of Christ!

In fine, the exercises, as a whole, gave more satisfaction than was anticipated. The parts were well committed, and, for the most part, audibly spoken. There were fewer inequalities than common. None were contemptible; and none electrified the audience, as is sometimes the case. We walked in procession to the hall, at about 20 minutes after IV.

The President at first startled me by calling on me to ask the blessing, as Dr. Ware did not dine in the hall. I told him that Dr. Holmes was present. He was accordingly invited to the upper table, and performed that service y^e 2^d time.

Dr. Gray, 1790, was the oldest settled clergyman whom I could find in the hall. He returned thanks.

The oldest man in italicks whom I saw in the hall was Dr. Sanders, 1788.

The oldest clergyman at Commencement was Dr. Ripley, 1776.

The oldest graduate was Perez Morton, 1771, State's Attorney.

on "The Roman Ceremonies, the System of the Druids, the Religion of the Hindoos, and the Superstition of the American Indians."

¹ Born April 18, 1809; died in Waterville, N. Y., July 24, 1889.

² Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D.D., born in Bedford, Sept. 4. 1808; died in New Brunswick, N. J., Nov. 11, 1889.

³ Thomas Hopkinson, born in New Sharon, Me., August 25, 1804; died in Cambridge, Nov. 17, 1856.

⁴ Thomas Kemper Davis, of the class of 1827.

⁵ E. S. Dixwell, of the class of 1827.

In singing the usual psalm, LXXVIII., "Give ear, my people," &c., I had taken pains to station a chorister at the head table in each hall, so that we could communicate the time to each other. The singing accordingly was unusually good.

This was the 18th time that I have set the usual tune, St. Martin's.

Degrees of A.B. were conferred on 48; and of A.M. on 23.

No honorary degrees were given. The house was thinner than usual, as there were no large parties.

After dinner I called at Penniman's chamber; but most of his friends had gone.

Of classmates I saw 5, *Fletcher*, Gardner, Jackson, *Muzzy*, and *Whitney*¹ . . .

Alive in italicks after me, 214.

Of these now in office, 159; do. out of office, 50; doubtful, 5 = 214.

In italicks before me, 91 + 1 = 306.

		Of these	
		Before me	after me
Liberal Congrega ^{ta}	. . . . .	54 +	121 = 175
Orthodox do.	. . . . .	33 +	68 = 101
Episcopalians .	. . . . .	3 +	19 = 22
Doubtful . . . . .	. . . . .	1	= 1
Baptists . . . . .	. . . . .		5 = 5
Swedenborgian .	. . . . .		1 = 1
Universalist . . . . .	. . . . .		1 = 1
Total			306
Officiating before me		39, self 1, after me	159 = 199
Not officiating do.	41	do.	50 = 91
Doubtful do.	11	do.	5 = 16
			306

The Catalogue was printed this year. Pres. Quincy wished me to take the responsibleness for its accuracy. But I declined, telling him that I would do as much as if I were the editor. He afterwards appointed Charles Folsom, of 1813. Accordingly, the sheets were uniformly sent to me, except from 1823.

The oldest graduate, this year remaining alive, in the Catalogue, is Paine Wingate, born at Amesbury, 15 May, O. S., 1739; grad. 1759; ordained at Hampton Falls, N. H., 14 Dec., 1763; dism. 18 March,

¹ Dr. Pierce's classified lists of other graduates whom he saw fill nearly four and a half pages.

1776. Since, he has been Senator to Congress, and Judge of the Supreme Court. He now lives in Stratham, N. H.

For some account of him, and a curious letter written by him, see the *Centinel* of 25 August, this year, Commencement day.¹

[1831.]

On Wednesday, 31 August, I attended my XLVIIth Commencement at Cambridge, viz., every one beginning with 1784, excepting 1791, on which day my mother was buried.

The day was cool and comfortable. Though the morning was cloudy there was no rain.

The procession started from the Library, in Harvard Hall, precisely at X.

The salutatory oration, which was assigned to McKean,² was not performed.

¹ The letters referred to by Dr. Pierce are as follows :—

To the Editors of the Centinel :—

The following letter, addressed to a gentleman in this city by the venerable graduate, who at the great age of ninety-two now stands first on our University Catalogue (class of 1759), will be interesting to the sons of Harvard on their present anniversary. The original, which we have seen, is in a handwriting that has a steadiness and regularity corresponding with the great firmness of constitution and health of the aged author, whom we have personally known for several years. To the public he has been long known as one of the intelligent and efficient members of Congress for a long period immediately after the adoption of the Constitution, and subsequently as a Judge of the Supreme Court of New Hampshire. To readers who are not familiar with college usages, it may be necessary to remark, that before the Revolution the students, upon their first admission, were ranged alphabetically; but in the course of the first year they were *placed* according to the rank which their parents held in society, — as the sons of the Governor of Massachusetts, magistrates, ministers, &c.

G.

STRATHAM, Aug. 15, 1830.

DEAR SIR, — Believing that you have the curiosity to notice incidents that are unusual, although they may appear to be trivial, I am induced to communicate to you the following note, which you will make use of as you shall see fit.

Paine Wingate, of Stratham, N. H., was born in 1739, May 14, Julian Style. He entered Cambridge College at Commencement, 1755, in the freshman class, when he stood the last or lowest in the class, placed alphabetically as the custom then was; of course he was junior in grade to every member of the College until the class was *placed* in the preceding part of the year. In the year 1830, when the Catalogue of that University was published, he was the senior or first in the Catalogue then living, having in the course of seventy-five years passed through the various grades from the lowest to the highest of all the members of that University, — a circumstance which I conclude has not happened to any one other since the origin of the College, and probably will not occur again in many centuries. If Mr. B. should think it an incident worth calculating, I think he may find data in the Catalogue and other sources to form a tolerably correct calculation when a similar event may happen again. The facts above stated may be relied upon as correct from the hand of Paine Wingate, *Ætatis* 92.

From your very affectionate,

PAINE WINGATE.

For an interesting account of a visit to Mr. Wingate, six years later, by the Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, secretary of the committee of arrangements for the celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of the College, see 2 *Proceedings*, vol. iv. pp. 303-305.

² J. G. McKean, born in Cambridge, Dec. 1, 1811; died there, Jan. 31, 1851.

Wright,¹ Read,² Farley,³ & Furber,⁴ who had parts in conferences, did not perform.

Worcester,⁵ in an essay, Abbot⁶ & Motley,⁷ in a colloquial discussion, Austin,⁸ in a dissertation, did not perform, making 8 of the 35 to whom parts were assigned.

Dr. Ware made an introductory prayer of 3½ minutes, & a concluding one of 3.

Simmons⁹ was distinguished as a speaker. Indeed, I consider him the most finished orator whom I have ever heard at the University.

Hillard¹⁰ was much admired in his oration for the Master's degree.

Of the Corporation, Dr. Porter, of Roxbury, was absent from indisposition. Judge Jackson did not attend the exercises in the house.¹¹

The Overseers now consist of 79, 40 of whom are Cambridge scholars. The following only of that body were present¹² . . .

¹ Frederic Wright, born in Northampton, July 6, 1811; died in Manhattan, Ohio, April 10, 1846.

² George W. Read. His name is not in the Quinquennial Catalogue.

³ Massillon Farley.

⁴ Frederick Furber, born in Boston, Jan. 22, 1811; died in South Boston, July 1, 1853.

⁵ Frederick A. Worcester, born in Hollis, N. H., Jan. 28, 1807; died in Townsend, March 3, 1888.

⁶ Caleb F. Abbott, born in Chelmsford, Sept. 8, 1811; died in Toledo, Ohio, April 24, 1855.

⁷ J. Lothrop Motley, born in Dorchester, April 15, 1814; died in London, England, May 29, 1877. He had part with Abbott in a discussion "On the Influence of the Multiplication of Books upon Literature." A memoir of Mr. Motley, by O. W. Holmes, is in *Proceedings*, vol. xvi. pp. 404-473.

⁸ William Austin, born in Charlestown, Sept. 15, 1811; died in Groton, Jan. 8, 1835.

⁹ William H. Simmons, born in Boston, May 11, 1812; died there, August 10, 1841. The subject of his oration was "Radicalism."

¹⁰ George S. Hillard, of the class of 1828. His oration was on "The Dangers to which the Minds of Young Men in our Country are exposed."

¹¹ It may be interesting to compare with Dr. Pierce's record the impressions which the exercises made on John Quincy Adams. On the same day Mr. Adams wrote in his diary: "The merit of the performances was beyond the usual average. Of the undergraduate performances, the two orations of Eames and Simmons were most remarked, with one part of a conference by Wendell Phillips, the youngest son of my old friend and associate, John Phillips. I thought, however, that there had been rather too great a transition from tameness to overvehement in the delivery, and that there was a corresponding change discernible in the composition, now somewhat exceptionable for exaggerated sentiments and startling paradoxes. I made the remark to Judge Davis, at whose side I sat; but he said he thought paradox was the usual defect of Commencement compositions. The English oration for the Master's degree, by Hillard, affected me beyond expression. I thought it the most beautiful and pathetic effusion that I had ever heard. The Latin valedictory, by Chapman, was short, and with touches of pleasantry, which closed the performances of the day with much good humor."—*Memoirs of J. Q. Adams*, vol. viii. pp. 405, 406.

¹² Dr. Pierce records their names.

37 in the whole present, 30 Cambridge scholars, viz.

The Governour and Lieut. Governour, 2; the whole Council, 9; of the Senate, 7; elective members (lay 8, clerical 11), 19 = 37.

We arrived at the hall about 20 minutes before IV.

President Bates, not from age, but from station, being President of Middlebury College, Vt., asked the blessing, in a very appropriate manner. He was a graduate of Cambridge, in 1800.

Dr. Packard, of North Chelmsford, of 1787, returned thanks. He performed this service in an audible voice, and with much propriety, so as to give ample satisfaction to the company.

I set St. Martin's, the 19th time, to the usual psalm. It was pitched a little too high.

The oldest graduate present was Perez Morton, of 1771, the 3^d year in which he has been the oldest graduate present.

The oldest clergyman was Dr. Homer, of 1777.

Saw the following, who are before me in the Catalogue¹ . . .

32 before me, of whom 8 in italicks; of whom 5 in the ministry.

20 in my 7 cotem. classes, in which there were 246. Of these 20, 6 in italicks, 4 in office, 2 out of office.

	Alive.	Dead.	Total.
1790	25	17	42
1791	11	16	27
1792	21	16	37
1793	22	16	38
1794	17	12	29
1795	26	14	40
1796	22	11	33
	<hr/> 144	<hr/> 102	<hr/> 246

Two died since last Com., 1791, Turner; 1796, Davis² . .

At Commencement, 89 clergymen. Of these, 81 in office, 8 out of office. My seniors, 9; juniors, 80; Liberal, 68; Orthodox, 7; Episcopal, 7; Universalist, 1; Baptist, 1; not officiating, 5; Cambridge scholars, 73. In italicks alumni³ . . .

There were 64 graduated this year.

There are dead after me on Catalogue, 416.

By my computation there are *living, on the Catalogue*, —

333 before me;
1538 after me;
1 myself.

1872 alive in Catalogue.

¹ The names are recorded.

² Other lists of persons whom he saw are given.

³ Dr. Pierce records the names of those whom he saw.

In italicks.	Before me, 86	In office, 40	Out of office, 46
	After me, 222	165	57
	Myself, 1	1	
	<hr/> 309	<hr/> 206	<hr/> 103
Alive before me,	23	Have colleagues,	18
after me,	153		11
	1		
	<hr/> 177	Total colleagues,	<hr/> 29
Officiate alone,			

Of the class of 1802 there were 19 who dined together. This class has been remarkable for continuing their class meetings, without interruption, to the present time. They had a room, according to custom, the S. E. corner of Holworthy, lowest room, where they had coffee & refreshments. I called upon them. While I was there, the Governour who was of this class, came & joined them. As he entered, they all arose.

[1832.]

On Wednesday, 29 August, I attended my XLVIIIth Commencement at Cambridge.

The day was pleasant. Business was transacted so that we arrived at the meetinghouse but a few minutes after ten.

The Rev. Dr. Ware made an appropriate prayer of 4 minutes.

The salutatory oration, by Simmons,¹ was finely written & spoken.

J. W. Eaton² did well in a conference. He is a Baptist, supposed to be intended for the ministry.

A poem, by True,³ "The Missionary," was well written & spoken. He is a Methodist, & designed for a Methodist minister.

A philosophical disquisition, by Chapman,⁴ was ingenious & acceptable.

The part in a literary discussion by Mason,⁵ son of the eminent lawyer, was an excellent performance.

¹ Rev. George F. Simmons, born in Boston, March 24, 1814; died in Concord, Sept. 5, 1855.

² Born in Boston, July 20, 1811; died in Cambridgeport, Nov. 30, 1869. The conference was with Josiah G. Abbott and Albert H. Nelson, on "The Comparative Influence of Natural Scenery, the Institutions of Society, and Individual Genius on Taste."

³ Rev. Charles K. True, D.D., born in Portland, Me., August 14, 1809; died in Brooklyn, N. Y., June 20, 1878.

⁴ Richard M. Chapman, born in Boston, Jan. 3, 1813; died in Biddeford, Me., July 14, 1879. His theme was "The Causes of Ill Health in Literary Men."

⁵ Rev. Charles Mason, D.D., born in Portsmouth, N. H., July 25, 1812; died in Boston, March 23, 1862. The discussion was with John S. Dwight, on "English Biography and French Memoirs." A memoir of Dr. Mason, by Andrew P. Peabody, is in Proceedings, vol. vii. pp. 104-114.

The II^d oration, by Brooks,¹ was good.

The Ist oration, by Dorr,² fully sustained his standing in the class.

Fay³ was well approved in an English oration for the Master's degree, "On Radicalism."

The valedictory, by Cunningham,⁴ was well received.

There were 67 graduates.

Dr. Ware prayed 2 minutes.

Of the Corporation, Dr. Porter was absent from indisposition. Judge Jackson attended but part of the exercises. The Overseers now consist of 80, of whom 37 C. scholars. Present 32, of whom C. scholars 21⁵ . . .

We arrived at the hall at a little past IV P. M. Professor Chase, of the Baptist Institution, Newton, asked the blessing. The Rev. Mr. Taylor, Methodist minister in Boston, returned thanks.

I set St. Martin's, the 20th time, to the usual psalm, LXXVIIIth in Belknap's version. I had taken pains to get one in each hall to beat time. We thus succeeded in singing more in unison than has been common.

The oldest graduate I saw at Commencement was Laban Wheaton, of 1774.⁶ The oldest clergyman was Professor Dr. Ware. I recognized the following only as my seniors at college.⁷ . . . So that there were but 18 who stand before me on the Catalogue. Of these, 7 in italicks, viz. 4 in office, 3 out of office. In my 7 contemporary classes there were 19 present. Of these, 8 in italicks, viz. 5 in office, 3 out of office.⁸ . . .

There were accordingly present of those in italicks, 88. Of these, 69 were Cambridge scholars. Of these, 9 out of office, 61 in office. My seniors, 7; my juniors, 62. Of the 88 in italicks at Commencement, Liberal, 68; Orthodox, 7; Baptists, 8; Episcopalians, 3; Methodists, 2 = 88.

By my computation there are 313 alive before me in the Catalogue, & 1592 after me, + 1 = alive in Catalogue, 1906.

¹ Rev. Charles T. Brooks, born in Salem, June 20, 1813; died in Newport, R. I., June 14, 1883. His oration was on "The Love of Truth—a Practical Principle."

² James A. Dorr, born in Boston, June 8, 1812; died there, Feb. 18, 1869. His theme was "The Progress of Man."

³ Rev. Charles Fay, of the class of 1829, born in Cambridge, July 21, 1808; died in New York, Nov. 6, 1888. His subject was "Radicalism."

⁴ Dr. Edward L. Cunningham, of the class of 1829.

⁵ The names of those present are given.

⁶ Paine Wingate has been the first alive in the Catalogue for the four last Commencements, viz., 1829, 1830, 1831, 1832, since the decease of Nath. Lothrop, M.D., Plymouth, Oct., 1828, Æt. 91.—*Note by Dr. Pierce.*

⁷ Here follow 28 names, including 10 "cotemporaries."

⁸ Here follow more statistics of his "contemporary classes," and two more lists of names.

There are 432 dead after me, Com. 1832.

416 last year.

16 died the last year.

Before me, 84	In office, 39	Out of office, 45
After me, 230	In office, 167	Out of office, 63
1	1	
<hr/> 315	<hr/> 207	<hr/> 108
Before me, 23 alone.	16 have colleagues = 39	
After me, 159 alone.	8 have colleagues = 167	
<hr/> 182 alone.	<hr/> 24 have colleagues.	
		1
		<hr/> 207

There were present 21 of the class of 1802, the most famous for class meetings of any class which has been graduated.

Of those in italicks before me,¹ . . . 39 have a pastoral charge with & without colleagues.

Of those who officiate alone, 11 O. Cong^{ts}; 11 L. do.; 1 E. Of those who have colleagues, 9 O. Cong^{ts}; 7 L. do. Of those without past. charges, 9 O. Cong^{ts}; 10 L. do. Of those who have left p'g, 8 O. Cong^{ts}; 17 L. do.; 1 E. = 84.

Of those who still preach, without or with colleagues, 29 O.; 28 L. Have parishes, do., 20 O.; 18 L.; 1 E.

Summary of those italicized in the Catalogue.

In the Catalogue, 29 Aug. 1832, in italicks alive, 315. Of these, 207 in office; 108 out of office = 315.

Of the 207 in office, there are 68 Orthodox Cong^{ts}; 118 Liberal do.; 16 Episcopalians; 3 Baptists; 1 Swedenborgian; 1 Universalist = 207.

Of the 207, 183 are alone + 24 have colleagues = 207.

Of the 108 out of office, 34 have left preaching + 74 preach = 108. Of the 34 who have left preaching, 23 L. + 9 O. + 1 B. + 1 E. = 34.

Of the 74 who preach without a pastoral charge, 33 are Liberal Congregationalists, 33 Orthodox, 6 Episcopalians, 2 Baptists = 74.

[1833.]

On Wednesday, 28 August, I attended my XLIXth Commencement at Harvard University.

The day was cold, dry, and exceedingly dusty, as it had rained but moderately for 3 weeks.

The previous business was transacted in the Library, so that the procession started from Harvard Hall as the clock struck X.

¹ Here follow their names.

On entering the house the band of musick which had preceded the procession played a lively air.

When order was observed, Prof. Ware, Sen^r, made an appropriate prayer of 4 minutes.

The exercises of the graduating class, taken as a whole, might be considered as sustaining the rank of mediocrity.

The II^d English oration was thought to evince most talent. It was by Torrey.¹

The III^d oration, by Whiting,² on enthusiasm, was probably the most eloquent.

Some, however, assigned the palm to Welch,³ in a literary discussion on "The Poet of a Civilized Age."

Webster,⁴ son of the celebrated Daniel Webster, performed a part in the lowest conference to good acceptance.

Fisher Ames Harding⁵ gave a sound disquisition, "On what does the Security of our Institutions depend?"

The concluding oration of the Bachelors, by Bowen,⁶ was a sober, chaste performance. The manner of his bidding adieu to the old meetinghouse, as this was to be the last Commencement observed in it, was peculiarly touching to those whose associations with it were the strongest.

The English oration of the Masters, by Hopkinson,⁷ was ingenious, but poorly committed. He took a feeling notice of Penniman, who had died while studying divinity.

The valedictory, by Andrews,⁸ was a mixture of the serious, the jocose, and the ludicrous, well written and delivered.

Concluding prayer by Dr. Ware, 2 min.

At a few minutes past III the procession moved to Commons Hall. Dr. Homer asked the blessing; & Dr. Wainwright, as a clergyman of distinction, from New York, returned thanks. He is an Episcopal clergyman.

I set the LXXVIIIth Psalm, the 21st time, to St. Martin's. There

¹ Henry W. Torrey. His oration was entitled "De Mortuis nil nisi Bonum."

² William Whiting, born in Concord, March 3, 1813; died in Roxbury, June 29, 1873.

³ Charles A. Welch.

⁴ Fletcher Webster, born in Boston, July 23, 1813; died at Bull Run, Va., August 29, 1862. He had part in a conference with George I. Crafts and David S. Greenough, on "Common Sense, Genius, and Learning; their Characteristics, Comparative Value, and Success."

⁵ Born in Dover, Jan. 23, 1811; died in Detroit, August 4, 1846.

⁶ Francis Bowen, born in Charlestown, Sept. 8, 1811; died in Cambridge, Jan. 21, 1890. His topic was "The Spirit of Reform."

⁷ Thomas Hopkinson, of the class of 1830. His theme was "The Spirit of Ancient and Modern Education."

⁸ Benjamin H. Andrews, of the class of 1830, born in Boston in 1811; died in Philadelphia, Penn., Sept. 21, 1847.

was a general complaint that it was pitched too high, though by beating time in the 4 halls we sang very nearly in unison.

The oldest graduate whom I saw at Commencement was Laban Wheaton, 1774. He was the oldest last year.

The oldest clergyman, Jonathan Homer, D.D., of Newton, 1777. He was the oldest, 1831.

The Hon. Paine Wingate has been the oldest alive in the Catalogue for the five last Commencements, viz. since Oct., 1828.

The Board of Overseers now consists of 81 members. The following only I recognized as present¹ . . . *Ex of.* members, 15; elected members, 20 = 35. Of these, 25 were alumni.

No strangers of high distinction were present. There were fewer in the meetinghouse, fewer in the hall, fewer on the Common, than I have ever seen before on such an occasion. But few parties were given. It was peculiarly orderly and quiet.

The Catalogue was printed this year, but with such haste that it is feared many inaccuracies will be detected.

On the 2 days I saw the following seniors & contemporaries.² Of these, 12 in italicks, 8 in office, 4 out of office. Of my contemporaries, 4 in office, 2 out of office = 6.

Others in italicks whom I saw³ . . . Others in Register⁴ . . . Also, Prof. Goodrich, Y. C.; Prof. Wolsey, do.; Prof. Chase, Newton; Prof. Mulligan, N. Y.

There were accordingly present 77 alumni in italicks, viz.: Liberal, 61; Episcopalians, 5; Orthodox, 11 = 77. Others in Register, Liberal, 7; Episcopalians, 2; Orthodox, 1; Baptists, 2 = 12. Total in min⁵ 89 + 1 = 90.

No honorary degrees conferred this year.

Of 21 before me who officiate alone,	10 L. + 10 O. + 1 E. = 21	} 37
Of 16 colleagues before me,	7 L. + 9 O. = 16	

Of 15 out of office who occasionally		
preach,	8 L. + 7 O.	= 15

Of 26 who have left preaching,	17 L. + 9 O.	= 26
--------------------------------	--------------	------

Of the 52 who preach,	25 L. + 26 O. + 1 E. = 52
-----------------------	---------------------------

Of the 36 who have a pastoral		
charge,	17 L. + 18 O. + 1 E. = 36	

Accordingly of the 90 whom I saw at Commencement this year, including myself, who preach or have preached, 69 were Liberal Cong., 12 Orthodox do., 7 Episcopa., 2 Baptists = 90.⁵ . . .

¹ Here follow their names.

² Here follow 39 names.

³ Seventy-seven names.

⁴ Twelve names.

⁵ Here follow four classified lists of the 78 names "Of those in italicks before me."

[1834.]

On Wednesday, 27 August, 1834, I attended my fiftieth Commencement at Harvard University, the first in the new meetinghouse,¹ 1st Commencement.

There were but 68 Commencements in the old meetinghouse, which has been recently demolished, the first being in 1758. There was no Commencement in 1764, on account of the small-pox; none from 1773 to 1781, 7 years, on account of the Revolutionary War; leaving 68 years in which there were Commencements. 49 I attended in said house, leaving 19 only which I did not attend.

The day was cool, and the dust would have been uncomfortable had not the precaution been used of wetting the streets near the University.

Business was transacted so seasonably that we were enabled to form the procession at X, the time appointed.

Of 80 present members of the Board of Overseers, 35 only were present to do business. Of these, 22 were sons of Harvard.

A commodious stage was erected in front, and by the sides of the pulpit, to which all who formed the procession rushed, without distinction of claims. A Brookline schoolmaster, who is still an undergraduate, I recognised among the number.

The house is so much larger and more convenient than was the former that all who desired were accommodated.

Dr. Ware opened the meeting with an appropriate prayer.

The first exercise in the house by an undergraduate was the salutatory oration, in Latin, by Thaddeus Clap,² of Dorchester, III^d cousin to my children. It was a happy specimen of Latinity well delivered.

Harrington,³ of Roxbury, in an essay on "Varieties of Genius," was perhaps as acceptable to the audience in general as any of his class.

The general fault was, many of the speakers spoke too low, and many required too much prompting. The most prevalent cause doubtless was that the class had been in such agitation as to leave it doubtful whether there would be a Commencement till it was too late to prepare themselves suitably.

This class had been as regular as classes in general till a rebellion occurring in the lower classes they needlessly and imprudently interfered and issued a circular implicating the government and vindicating the rebels. After patient examination of facts, the Faculty voted to

¹ New church, 86 feet long and 70 feet wide. Old church, 70 feet long and 50 feet wide. — *Note by Dr. Pierce.*

² Born in Dorchester, May 11, 1811; died there, July 10, 1861.

³ Rev. Henry F. Harrington, born in Roxbury, August 15, 1814; died in Keene, N. H., Sept. 19, 1887.

deprive 7 of their degrees. The class consisted last October of 53. For various reasons the following did not receive degrees this day¹ . . .

At a meeting of the Overseers, just before Commencement, President Quincy made a report in full of the disorders among the students & of the remedies applied by the Faculty. This document was committed to a com^{tee}, of which J. Q. Adams was chairman, who made a report which was unanimously accepted, & is now in the press, which, it is said, will exhibit the mischiefs of the rebellion & the judicious measures adopted in a striking but just point of view.

Eames,² who had prepared the English oration for the second degree, failed by indisposition, being seized on his arrival at Boston with a violent fit of asthma, which required medical prescription.

Simmons³ delivered a Latin valedictory of 15 minutes, which, I agree with those who maintain, was the happiest specimen of elocution ever exhibited on our boards, within the memory of the present generation.

Of the class of 66, 5 of whom have died, 25 took the degree of A.M. in course.

The procession moved to the hall at about III. Dr. Holmes, 1783, Yale, the 3^d time asked the blessing, & Dr. Gray, 1790, the 2^d time gave thanks.

I set the LXXVIIIth Psalm the 22^d time to St. Martin's, having the assistance of the band of instrumental musick.

Strangers of distinction present, Gov. Tyler, Senator of Virginia; Mr. Mangum, Senator of North Carolina; & Mr. Ewing, Senator of Ohio.

The oldest graduate whom I saw was Dr. Spooner, of 1778; the oldest clergyman in office, Dr. Ware, 1785. Dr. Holmes, out of office, was of 1783, at Yale.

Paine Wingate, 1759, has been the oldest alive on our Catalogue for the 6 last Commencements.

On the two days I saw the following seniors & contemporaries who have received degrees at Harvard University⁴ . . .

Present, alumni in italicks, 77. In office, 56; out of office, 21 = 77; others in office, 14. Have been clergymen, 91.

Accordingly of the 70 officiating clergymen at Commencement this year, 59 Liberal + 5 Orthodox + 4 Epis. + 1 Bap. + 1 Chris. = 70.

¹ Dr. Pierce gives the names and places of residence of 16 members of the class, of whom all but two subsequently received their degrees or were restored to the class list.

² Charles Eames, of the class of 1831, born in New Braintree, March 20, 1812; died in Washington, D. C., March 16, 1867.

³ William H. Simmons, of the class of 1831.

⁴ Here follow the usual classified lists of names.

D.D. this year. Rev. Francis Parkman, Boston; Rev. Henry Ware, Jr., Rev. John G. Palfrey, Professors in the Divinity School, Cam.

[1835.]

On Wednesday, 26 August, I attended my LIth Commencement at Cambridge.

At about X in the morning, when the procession had arrived at the meetinghouse, it began to rain, with the wind S.W., and rained, so that the streets became very muddy, principally throughout the day.

Of the 51 Commencements I remember none on which there was rain but in 1796 & 1798. If this be the case, there has not been a rainy Commencement for 37 years.

The salutatory oration, by Blake,¹ was very imperfectly committed. The orator required far more prompting than I ever remember. This made his oration appear to great disadvantage.

An English poem, by Winslow,² "A Vision of Ambition," was well received.

Geo. Cabot,³ grandson of a distinguished statesman of the same name, in a literary discussion on "The Resources & Encouragements of Elegant Literature in the Old & New World," was far the best speaker of the day.

The III English oration by Hoar,⁴ on "The Christian Philosophy — its Political Application," evinced sound thought.

The concluding oration, by Shackford,⁵ of 20 minutes, was good; but not so preëminent as is commonly expected from the concluding orator. I should place it as a mental effort below the oration of Hoar.

The Master's English oration, by Brooks,⁶ was sensible, but being 38 minutes long, & begun after III, it was tedious to most of the hearers.

The valedictory, by Simmons,⁷ of 14 minutes, was finely written & spoken.

The degree of D.D. was conferred on the Rev. Jona. Mayhew Wainwright, of Boston, & on Rev. James Walker, of Charlestown.

The degree of LL.D. was conferred on Hon. John Pickering &

¹ H. G. O. Blake.

² Rev. Benjamin D. Winslow, born in Boston, Feb. 13, 1815; died in Burlington, N. J., Nov. 21, 1839.

³ Born in Boston, Feb. 10, 1817; died there, July 17, 1850.

⁴ E. R. Hoar.

⁵ Rev. Charles C. Shackford. His theme was "Popularity."

⁶ Charles T. Brooks, of the class of 1832. His subject was "Decision of Character as demanded in our Day and Country."

⁷ George F. Simmons, of the class of 1832.

Hon. Edward Everett, sons of Harvard, & on Hon. Smith Thompson, Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States.

The degree of A.B. was conferred on 54 in course; & of A.M. on 24 in course; and of M.D. on 19; and of LL.B. on 3.

As we entered the house such a general rushing was there upon the stage, and so many young men took their stations upon it, who had no manner of right, that in order to secure seats for Doctors Cox & Hoby, 2 distinguished representatives of the Baptist denomination from England, I was obliged to take my seat below, in the first pew, before the pews assigned to the Bachelors.

We left the church for dinner at a little past IV. I procured a seat for Dr. Cox at the upper table, near Pres. Quincy & next to President Day.

By my suggestion to the President Dr. Cox asked the blessing.

By my suggestion also, as thanks are commonly returned after dinner when there is great hilarity, and it is difficult to restore order, the usual psalm, LXXVIII, was substituted. By my care to procure a suitable person at the head table in each of the 4 halls to beat the time, St. Martin's, which I set the 23^d time, went well.

Of 80 present members of the Board of Overseers, I ascertained but 26 to be present, 18 of whom were sons of Harvard.

Dr. Ware opened & closed the meeting with prayer.

The oldest graduate & clergyman I saw, was Rev. Jonathan Homer, D.D., of Newton; that is, he was the first on the Catalogue present. His classmate, Rev. H. Porter, of Rye, N. H., who also was present, was 80 last March. Dr. Homer was 76, 15 April.

Hon. Paine Wingate, 1759, born 14 May, 1739, has been the first alive on the Catalogue for the last 7 Commencements.

But one classmate, Rev. N. B. Whitney,¹ present² . . .

Summary of those supposed to be alive, italicized in the Catalogue, Com., 1835.

The whole number in italics alive is 314. Of these 199 in office, 115 out of office = 314.

Of the 199 in office, 176 are alone, 23 have colleagues.

Of the 199 in office, 104 are Liberal Congregationalists; 65 Orthodox do.; 24 Episcopalians; 4 Baptists; 1 Swedenborgian; 1 Universalist = 199.

¹ I had been informed that he was present; but I have since learned that he came to Boston for the purpose of attending Commencement, but that illness confined him to the city; so that this is the first Commencement since we were graduated at which no classmate was present. — *Note by Dr. Pierce.*

² This record is immediately followed by a list of the speakers for the Boylston prizes, and an account of the anniversary exercises before the Phi Beta Kappa Society. The lists of persons whom he saw on the two days are given afterward, with the usual analyses.

Of the 115 out of office, 76 preach, 39 not = 115.

Of the 76 out of office who preach, 46 Liberal; 23 Orthodox; 5 Episcopalians; 2 Baptists = 76.

Of the 39 who have left preaching, 26 L.; 11 O.; 1 E.; 1 B. = 39.

Alive before me on Commencement, 1835 . . .	251
	1
do. after me	1647
	<hr/>
Alive at this Com.	1899
	<hr/>
Deaths after me	520

[1836.]

On Wednesday, 31 August, I attended my LII^d Commencement at Cambridge.

The weather was cold, thermometer at sunrise standing at 49°. ¹ It was also exceedingly dry, as it had rained but moderately for the last 23 days. It would have been very dusty, had not the precaution been used to sprinkle the streets near the University buildings throughout the day.

The procession moved from the library to the meetinghouse, and arrived in such season that the exercises began at X¹₄.

After a voluntary by the band, Dr. Ware offered a short and devout prayer.

There were but 16 performers of the candidates for the first degree, and 2 for the second.

The exercises as a whole were below mediocrity. The speaking was for the most part tame and monotonous.

A dissertation by Minot, ² grandson of that fine scholar, Geo. R. Minot, was decidedly the best exercise throughout the day.

The concluding oration of the Masters, by Lovering, ³ appeared to be ingeniously written, but it was spoken in too low a tone to be heard by the audience in general.

It was but a little after II. P. M. when the performances closed; prayer by Dr. Ware.

Three Presidents of Colleges were present, besides the President of the day; viz., President Duer, of Columbia College, N. Y.; Pres. Humphrey, of Amherst; and President Wayland, of Brown University. There were but few other strangers of distinction.

¹ The Com^t, 28 Aug., 1816, was colder. See mem. — *Note by Dr. Pierce.*

² William Minot. His theme was "The Interest attached to Places where distinguished Persons have dwelt, or which Poets have commemorated."

³ Joseph Lovering, of the class of 1833.

President Humphrey asked the blessing. The singing of the usual psalm was substituted for the benediction, as it was last year for the first time. I had taken pains to employ a person at the head table in each hall to beat the time, so that St. Martin's, which in Tate and Brady's version of the LXXVIIIth Psalm was sung, went well. I set the tune for the 24th time.

Of the 81 Overseers, I ascertained but 26 to be present. Of these, 16 were sons of Harvard.

There were 39 admitted to the degree of A.B.; 18 to A.M. in course; 5 out of course; 17 to the degree of LL.B.; 20 to the degree of M.D.

Ward Chipman, Chief Justice of New Brunswick; Lewis Cass, Esq., Secretary at War; & Charles Joseph Anthony Mittermair, Privy Councillor of the Duke of Baden, LL.D.

Rev. Nathaniel Langdon Frothingham, of Boston, & Rev. John Brazer, of Salem, D.D.

The oldest graduate present was Laban Wheaton, of 1774. He has been the oldest twice before, in 1832 & 1833. The oldest clergyman was Dr. Ripley, 1776, of Concord, who drove himself in a sulky from home that morning, though he was 85 on 1 May last. He was the oldest clergyman once before, viz. in 1830.

Hon. Paine Wingate, of Stratham, N. H., 97 last May, has been the first on the Catalogue alive for the last 8 Commencements.

Be it noted, that this is the first Commencement which I ever attended in Cambridge, in which I saw not a single person drunk in the hall or out of it. There were the fewest present I ever remember, doubtless on account of the bis-centennial celebration to be observed next week ¹ . . .

After me in italics. Alone, 168; colleagues, 13 = 181 in the ministry; occasionally preach, 59 = 240 who preach.

Of the 168 alone, 93 L. + 46 O. + 22 E. + 5 B. + 1 S. + 1 U. = 168.

Of the 13 colleagues, 8 L. + 4 O. + 1 B. = 13.

Of the 59 oc^r preach, 29 L. + 18 O. + 10 E. + 2 B. = 59.

Of the 16 left preach^s 11 L. + 5 O. = 16.

By my computation there are alive on the Catalogue of this year, before me 240, after me 1664, myself 1 = 1905 alive on the Catalogue.

There are 548 dead after me.

There stand on the Catalogue after me, 2213. There stand on the Catalogue before me, 3172. Number of alumni, 5385.

¹ Here follow several pages containing the names of the competitors for the prizes, accounts of the meeting of the alumni and of the anniversary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, and the usual lists of names of persons present on the two days.

Summary of those italicised in the Catalogue of 1836.

The whole number alive italicised is 317. Of these 206 are in office, and 111 out of office. Of the 206 in office, 113 Liberal Congregationalists; 62 Orthodox do.; 23 Episcopalians; 6 Baptists; 1 Swedenborgian; 1 Universalist. Of the 206 in office, 179 are alone, 27 have colleagues. Of the 111 out of office, 73 occasionally preach, 38 have left preaching. Of the 73 occasional preachers, 36 L. + 25 O. + 10 E. + 2 B. = 73. Of the 38 left preaching 25 L. + 13 O. = 38. Of the 27 colleagues, 14 L. + 12 O. + 1 B. = 27.

[1837.]

On Wednesday, 30 August, I attended my LIII^d Commencement at Harvard University.

After midnight previous it rained in showers. It rained as the meetinghouse was opened. It slacked when the procession moved, at X o'clock. But it rained with great violence while we were dining in the halls, and continued the rest of the afternoon. This makes but 4 rainy days which I remember of the 53 Commencements I have attended, viz., in 1796, 1798, 1835, & 1837.

The procession arrived at the church about X.

After a voluntary on the organ, Dr. Ware, Sen^r, opened the exercises with a short & solemn prayer.

The salutatory oration, by Russell,¹ was well written and delivered. . . .

A dissertation by Richard H. Dana,² son of R. H. Dana and grandson of the former Judge Francis Dana, was on the unique topic, "Heaven lies about us in our Infancy." He is a handsome youth, and spoke well. But his composition was of that Swedenborgian, Coleridgean, and dreamy cast which it requires a peculiar structure of mind to understand, much more to relish.

Hayward,³ who wrote a drama which was performed last winter at the Tremont Theatre, in a philosophical discussion "On the Expediency of making Authorship a Profession," distinguished himself equally as a writer and a speaker.

The III^d English oration of Dall⁴ was popularly written and spoken "On Public Recreations." . . .

The II^d English oration, on "Empiricism," was overstrained. If the orator had not tried to do so well, he would have done better. Wheeler.⁵

¹ Charles T. Russell.

² Born in Cambridge, August 7, 1815; died in Rome, Italy, Jan. 6, 1882.

³ Charles Hayward, born in Boston, Sept. 8, 1817; died there, Nov. 5, 1838.

⁴ Rev. C. H. A. Dall, born in Baltimore, Feb. 12, 1816; died in Calcutta, India, July 18, 1886.

⁵ Charles S. Wheeler, born in Lincoln, Dec. 19, 1816; died in Leipsic, Germany, June 13, 1843.

The part in a deliberative discussion, on "Whether Patriotism was inculcated to Excess in the Ancient Republics?" was considered by good judges the best written and spoken exercise of the day. HILDRETH¹ & Morison.²

The concluding oration of the Bachelors, by Eustis,³ on "The Literary Profession," evinced good plain common sense, and was well received.

The Master's English oration, on "Moral Effort," by Thomas Cushing,⁴ was a respectable performance.

The Latin valedictory, by Felton,⁵ of 10 minutes, was well adapted to the occasion.

This Commencement I should rank above mediocrity. The parts in general were well sustained. The speakers were mostly heard. None had a prompter. For the first time they carried their parts rolled up in their left hands. Two or three only were obliged to unroll them to refresh their memories. The concluding oration for the first time within my memory contained not only no names, but even no mention, of benefactors.

There were but 4 failures in performance, two in the first conference, one in the second conference, and one dissertation.

There were 18 performers in the class of Bachelors, and 2 in that of the Masters, = 20. The degree of A.B. was given to 46; A.M. in course to 12; out of course to 2; LL.B. to 10; M.D. to 16; LL.D. to James Lewis Petigru, Charleston, S. C., & D. A. White, Salem; D.D., to Rev. Samuel Gilman, Rev. Alvan Lamson, Rev. Convers Francis.

The oldest graduate present was Dr. Cheever, M.D., of 1779, viz. 58 years out of college. The oldest clergyman, Dr. Ware, of 1785, 52 years from college. He has been the oldest clergyman once before, viz. in 1832.

Hon. Paine Wingate, of Stratham, N. H., born 26 May, N. S., 1739, and a graduate of 1759, has been for 9 Commencements the oldest surviving graduate.

This year there are 82 Overseers of H. U. I ascertained but 29 of these to be present, of whom 19 are sons of Harvard.

At about II½ the procession moved to the hall. Of strangers of distinction there were present Judge Daggett, 1783, Yale, of New

¹ Samuel T. Hildreth, born in Exeter, N. H., Nov. 17, 1817; died in Somerville, Feb. 11, 1839.

² Horace Morison, born in Peterborough, N. H., Sept. 13, 1810; died there, August 5, 1870.

³ Dr. John F. Eustis, born in Norfolk, Va., Nov. 3, 1817; died in Philadelphia, Penn., Sept. 30, 1844.

⁴ Thomas Cushing, of the class of 1834.

⁵ Samuel M. Felton, of the class of 1834, born in West Newbury, July 17, 1809; died in Philadelphia, Penn., Jan. 24, 1889.

Haven; 3 Presidents of Colleges, viz., President Bates, H. U. 1800, of Middlebury, Vt., President Jasper Adams, B. U. 1815, of Charleston, S. C., & President Mark Hopkins, W. C. 1824, of Williams College, Williamstown. The latter as the greatest stranger asked the blessing. Instead of thanks, as in former times, we sang the LXXVIII. Psalm, I setting the tune the 25th time. This was the 3^d anniversary in which this psalm has been the substitute for thanks according to former custom. By the precaution to employ a person in each hall to beat the time for his hall, we kept pretty good time.¹

Wine was furnished at dinner, as well as cider. As honey or molasses attracts flies and other insects, so these inebriating liquors allure graduates addicted to such drinks, particularly the intemperate, to come and drink their fill.

There was pretty good order till the President and suite had retired. Afterwards "certain lewd fellows of the baser sort" congregated in the North Hall, and choosing a drunken moderator, they continued for a long time to exhaust the remaining bottles which had not been emptied by the regular company. They sang songs, clapped hands, and shouted, so as to expose themselves, and the credit of our University, to the notice of some strangers of distinction who were within hearing of such disorders.

Nor can such disorders surprise any one who considers that there are still remains of former intemperate excesses among the sons of Harvard, even in these temperance times. I am credibly informed that considerable numbers² spent the whole night of the last valedictory of the seniors, viz., 18 July last, in drinking, carousing, and shouting within the College yard, to the great annoyance of the inhabitants even at a considerable distance, and were dispersed only by the light of the day. For "they that be drunken are drunken in the night." The Rev. Samuel Ripley informed me that one class supped in Waltham, just before Commencement, and were so irregular as to keep his family and others awake most of the night.

Nor can this be strange when our youth are early indoctrinated in the love of wine by the Fathers of the City of Boston. On the very week before Commencement the boys most distinguished in the Boston schools were invited to dine in public with the Governor, Mayor, School Com^{tee}, and other dignitaries, and were furnished with an abun-

¹ On a subsequent page Dr. Pierce makes this entry: "At Commencement dinner Pres. Quincy gave, 'His Excellency the Governor. The ornament of the College is the head of the State.' By the Governor, 'The Civil Republic & the Republic of Letters. A liberal support by the State of places of education, & a just support of the State by educated men.'"

² One of the class assured me that \$79 were expended in drink. — *Note by Dr. Pierce.*

dant supply of champagne wine. It is even said that one of the boys wrote an ode for the occasion, *more Horatiano*, in praise of wine. — of Dorchester, formerly a resident in Boston, declares that a son who became intemperate first got drunk in thus dining with the Fathers of the City.

I am assured that every University in New England but that at Cambridge discards wine from public occasions. Could this improvement be introduced at Harvard University, its sober friends would not be subjected to the mortification of seeing one of its most precious anniversaries desecrated by such disgraceful orgies as are now too often witnessed.¹ . . .

Summary of those alive who are italicised, Commencement, 1837. The whole number alive italicised is 318. Of these 203 are in office, and 115 out of office. Of the 203 in office, 112 are Liberal Congregationalists; 51 Orthodox do.; 7 Baptists; 2 Presbyterians; 2 Universalists; 1 Swedenborgian. Of the 203 in office, 173 are alone, 30 have colleagues. Of the 115 out of office, 82 occasionally preach, 33 have left p'g.

Of the 82 occasional preachers, 42 L. + 29 O. + 10 E. + 1 B. = 82.

Of the 33 left preaching, 24 L. + 9 O. = 33.

Of the 30 colleagues, 16 L. + 8 O. + 3 E. + 3 B. = 30.

By my computation there were on the Catalogue alive before me 216, after me 1777 + 1 = 1994 alive on the Catalogue.

562 dead after me.

On the Catalogue before me 3172, after me 2259 + 1 = total on Catalogue, 5432.

[1838.]

On Wednesday, 29 August, 1838, I attended my LIV. Commencement at Cambridge.

The day was delightfully cool, and the roads were free from dust, as it had rained on the previous Monday evening.

A long procession was formed in the Library in such season that we arrived at the meetinghouse at five minutes past X.

After a voluntary on the organ Dr. Ware offered an appropriate prayer of about 5 minutes.

1. The Latin salutatory oration, by Atkins,² was a respectable exercise. 9 min.

2. A conference, "Architecture, Music, & Poetry, as Expressions of National Character."

¹ Here follow the names of the competitors for the prizes for declamation, an account of the anniversary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, and the usual classified lists of persons whom he saw.

² Benjamin F. Atkins, born in Boston, Oct. 10, 1817; died in London, England, June 9, 1885.

William Aspinwall, Brookline, 5.

Darius Richmond Brewer, Dorchester, 5.¹

Charles Devens, Cambridge, 5.

Aspinwall is the only son of Col. Thomas Aspinwall, Consul at London. The father was the 3d scholar in the class of 1804. . . .

6. The sixth part was a poem by Story,² son of the Judge, 16 minutes long. It appeared to have no definite subject, but seemed to interest the audience. The notice which he took of the Cherokee Indians, just expelled by the cupidity of Georgia, sanctioned by our Government, from their homes, the land of their fathers, was touching.

12. A dissertation, "The Neglect of Physical Education," by Wm. Parsons Atkinson, born in Brookline, was a lovely exercise both in composition and elocution.

13. A political discussion, "Whether Sumptuary Laws are consistent with a Comprehensive and Enlightened Policy?" by Coolidge³ and Ware, 2^d,⁴ was well sustained, particularly by the former, who maintained the affirmative, and who had been the valedictory orator of the class when the vacation commenced.

16. The III^d English oration, "Aids to the Pursuits of Literature," by Lippitt,⁵ evinced sound sense & respectable elocution.

17. A forensic disputation, "Whether Conscientious Scruples, in all Cases, should be held paramount to the Law of the Land?" James Robinson Peirce,⁶ James Lloyd Wellington. The former in point of intellect and sound argument had not his superior in the class. His father was a mason, John Peirce, who married the daughter of Major James Robinson. The latter, who also did well, is son of the Rev. Charles Wellington, of Templeton.

18. The second oration, by Eustis,⁷ "Intolerance towards the Infirmities of Genius," appeared well. He is son of Gen. Abraham Eustis, class of 1804. Three of the sons had degrees this day, Horatio Sprague Eustis, 1830, out of course, A.M., and Frederic Augustus Eustis,⁸ A.M., in course. The latter performed the Latin valedictory of his class at this time, making two of the family who performed this day.

¹ Born in Dorchester, June 23, 1819; died in Westerly, R. I., March 18, 1881.

² William W. Story.

³ Rev. J. I. T. Coolidge, D.D.

⁴ George F. Ware, born in Cambridge, Feb. 14, 1820; died in San Francisco, Cal., Sept. 28, 1849.

⁵ Rev. George W. Lippitt.

⁶ Born in Dorchester, Feb. 13, 1818; died there, July 25, 1842.

⁷ Henry L. Eustis, born in Boston, Feb. 1, 1819; died in Cambridge, Jan. 11, 1885.

⁸ Of the class of 1835. Born in Newport, R. I., June 12, 1816; died in Beaufort, S. C., June 29, 1871.

20. The 1st yet concluding oration of the Bachelors, "Life in the Chivalrous Ages & in our own Time," by Rufus Ellis,¹ gave lucid proof that this young man deserved the distinction conferred upon him.

The oration for the Master's degree was entitled "Democracy's Banner," by Chs. Chauncy Shackford,² Portsmouth, N. H. The drift seemed to be that Christianity levels all distinctions. This young man has been to the Southward since taking his first degree, and, it is said, has become Orthodox. When he left college it was his purpose to have entered the Divinity College, at Cambridge. His course will now be different. His oration was 28 minutes long.

The Latin valedictory, by Eustis, was 12 minutes long, humorous, but not spoken loud enough.

The assignments to the Bachelors were 32, 2 only of whom, viz., Worthen in the 2^d conference, & Rotch in the first forensic, failed.

The 2 performances for the Masters made 32, in the whole, who performed. This was the 5th Commencement in the new church, which was more crowded than at any former Commencement. The performances as a whole were highly respectable, none very greatly distinguished, & none mean. The parts were well committed & well spoken.

Leaving the church at III $\frac{1}{2}$, after a session of 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours, we repaired to the hall. I procured seats at the head table for the Rev. Jonathan Homer & Rev. Huntington Porter, both of 1777. The Rev. Dr. Homer asked the blessing. Instead of thanks, as in former times, for the 4th anniversary, we sang the LXXVIIIth Psalm, I setting the tune the 26th time. By appointing a person to beat time, at the head table in each of the IV halls, the tune went admirably well.

President Quincy having prepared a History of Harvard University in two vols. 8vo, & presented it to the Corporation for the benefit of the University, and the publishers agreeing to publish the work at first cost for the aid of indigent scholars, Judge Story desired me to provide that 4 persons should be selected to distribute subscription papers in each hall, to give every one an opportunity of subscribing for the work, and thus aiding the University. The four thus selected, who were to nominate 4 subagents for the 4 tables in each hall, were J. Pierce, Hon. L. Saltonstall, Dr. Bowditch, & Dr. Walker. We thus obtained subscriptions for more than 200 copies.

President Bates was at Commencement. This was the 2^d year in which no mention was required to be made of benefactors by the concluding orator of the Bachelors.

Hon. Paine Wingate, of Stratham, N. H., who was the oldest living graduate for 9 Commencements, having died 7 March last, lacking 79

¹ Rev. Rufus Ellis, D.D., born in Boston, Sept. 14, 1819; died in Liverpool, England, Sept. 23, 1885.

² Of the class of 1835.

days of 99 years, Samson Salter Blowers, of Halifax, born 22 March, 1742, is now the oldest, and a graduate of 1763.

The degree of A.B. was given to 65; A.M., in course, 24; A.M., out of course, 2; LL.B., 19; M.D., 26; LL.D., Hon. James T. Austin, Samuel Hoar, Leverett Saltonstall, 3; D.D., Rev. Abiel Abbot, Rev. Thomas Robbins, 2; A.M., Hon. Frederic Howes, William Coffin Harris, 2.

The first on the Catalogue, at Commencement, was Rev. Dr. Homer, of Newton, 1777, a graduate of 61 years. This is the 2^d time of his being the first graduate present, the 4th time of his being the first clergyman, and the third time in which he has asked the blessing. He was born 15 April, 1759. Nevertheless his classmate Huntington Porter, who stands after him on the Catalogue, was born 27 March, 1755, and is accordingly 83 years, 5 months, and 2 days old. He was present at Commencement, and the day after.

This year there are 81 Overseers of Harvard University, of whom 39 are Cambridge graduates. Of these 39 only were at Commencement, of whom 29 were Cambridge graduates.

Notwithstanding the efforts of the friends of temperance, wine was furnished at dinner. There was nevertheless pretty good order in the hall, the most notorious drunkard, on such occasions, not being present. Though some drank freely of the wine, as considerable numbers of total abstinentes were present, yet it is evident that the temperance reformation exerts a salutary control even over those who spurn at it as ultraism.

There was a meeting in the Chapel after dinner, & it was resolved, though with some opposition, to have an annual meeting of alumni. The circumstantialia were referred to a com^{tee}¹ . . .

In italics on the Catalogue. Present incumbents, 62 alone + 14 colleagues = 76.

Of all the attendants in italics, Liberal 66, Orthodox 15, Baptists 4, Episcopalians 2, Universalists 2, Christian 1 = 90.

Before me in italics alive, 4 alone, 11 colleagues = 15 in the ministry; 20 occasionally preach = 35 who preach; 15 have left preaching = 50 alive before me.

Before me, alone,	3 L. + 1 E. = 4
colleagues,	5 L. + 6 O. = 11
oc ^r preach,	9 L. + 11 O. = 20
left preaching,	10 L. + 5 O. = 15
	<hr/> 50

Total alive before me, 204. Whole number alive in italics, 318.

¹ Dr. Pierce records the names of the ministers whom he saw at Commencement; but he omits the summary of deceased and living graduates.

[1839.]

On Wednesday, 28 August, 1839, I attended my LV. Commencement at Cambridge.

A slight shower the previous evening had somewhat laid the dust and cooled the air, which the day before had been excessively hot.

We arrived in the meetinghouse so as to commence the exercises at X $\frac{1}{4}$.

Rev. Dr. Walker, of the Corporation, for the first time, introduced the solemnities with a peculiarly appropriate prayer; Dr. Codman said, the best he had ever heard on the occasion. Dr. Ware, who has for several years been the chaplain on this occasion, has been disabled by almost total blindness from officiating in public since the Commencement of 1838.

The salutatory oration was by Hurd,¹ son of the Rev. Isaac Hurd, of Exeter, who had the same part when he was graduated, in 1806.

William E. Townsend,² of Boston, in a conference on "Missionary Enterprises," was highly approved. 9 minutes.

Thomas Dawes, in a poem of 17 minutes, was popular. He was the best orator who officiated this day.

Pliny Earle Chase,³ of Worcester, in a colloquy on establishing a University in the country rather than in a city. This Chase is from a family of Friends or Quakers, the first, it is believed, ever educated at our University.

The 10th exercise was "A Critical Dissertation. Greek & Roman Comedy." John Keble.⁴

This young man was brought forward & patronized by the Rev. George Putnam, of Roxbury, under peculiar circumstances. He was the son of indigent parents, who, with numbers of their countrymen, had left Germany for America, & settled in Roxbury. Mr. Putnam attending the funeral of a German child, he was desired by an old German woman to see one whom she considered an extraordinary boy. When he was brought to Mr. Putnam, they were at a loss for a language by which they could interchange thoughts, as Mr. Putnam could not speak German, nor the boy English. At length the boy wrote to Mr. Putnam in Latin, which he at once answered; & before they parted an agreement was made that the boy should live in Mr. Putnam's family. Accordingly he was employed as a house servant. In

¹ Dr. Francis P. Hurd, born in Exeter, N. H., Feb. 2, 1820; died in Boston, Oct. 2, 1884.

² Born in Boston, August 20, 1820; died there, Nov. 17, 1866.

³ Born in Worcester, August 18, 1820; died in Haverford, Penn., Dec. 17, 1886.

⁴ Born in Subz am Neckar, Würtemberg, Feb. 1, 1819; died in Cincinnati, Ohio, April 4, 1885.

process of time the boy evinced such a taste for study, and made such rapid proficiency that Mr. Putnam resolved to give him the benefit of a public education. The first year he paid his expenses. After this, as I understand it, Eben. Francis, Esq., took him under his patronage and discharged the rest of his bills. He is a fine scholar, and promises to be a useful man.

The third oration, by Morison,¹ on "A Modern Canon of Criticism," was sound and judicious.

The second oration, by Edward Everett Hale, on the "Supposed Degeneracy of the Age," was well written & spoken. The young man is nephew of Gov. Everett.

The last & most honorable oration, "The Old Age of the Scholar," was by Eliot,² son of the late Wm. H. Eliot, of 1815, & grandson of Alden Bradford, Esq. He was born 22 Dec., 1821, and is unquestionably a remarkable youth. Yet, notwithstanding his scholarship, I understand he is immediately to enter the counting-room of Robert G. Shaw, and become a merchant.

For the Master's degree, Robert Bartlett³ gave an oration of 36 minutes on "No good that is possible, but shall one day be real." This I suppose to be the Transcendentalism which is captivating to a few irregular genius's. But to me it was "like the tale of an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing."

The valedictory, in Latin, was by Samuel Breck Cruft,⁴ 13 minutes, in the humorous strain common to this sort of oration.

The degree of A.B. was conferred on 61; A.M. in course 10; A.M. out of course, 5; LL.B., 34; M.D., 19; LL.D., John McLean & James Grahame, Esq.; D.D., Rev. F. W. P. Greenwood, Rev. Orville Dewey, Rev. G. R. Noyes.

In the hall Rev. Roswell Shurtleff, past Professor at Dartmouth College, asked the blessing. I set the tune the 27th time. By employing a person at each of the head tables to beat time, St. Martin's, in 5 stanzas of the LXXVIII. Psalm, went well, 5th anniv? substitute for thanks.

There were 33 assignments for the first & second degrees, of which 5 failed, being excused.

We left the hall at a little after III, Dr. Walker closing with a short and pertinent prayer.

The exercises, as a whole, were thought to have exceeded mediocrity.

There are now 81 Overseers. Of these 30 were present, of whom 23 were Cambridge graduates.

¹ N. H. Morison.

² Samuel Eliot.

³ Of the class of 1836. Born in Plymouth, Oct. 8, 1818; died there, Sept. 25, 1843.

⁴ Of the class of 1836.

The oldest graduate present was Hon. Elijah Paine, 1781; the oldest clergyman, Dr. Ware, 1785; I was the oldest who has the sole care of his parish, for the first time. Dr. Ware, the oldest clergyman, the 4th time. Dr. Shurtleff, who returned thanks, had been from Dartmouth College 42 years.

Wine was furnished at dinner. The result was, that several young men shared freely of the wine which remained after dinner, and were boisterous in their mirth.

After dinner the alumni met in the Chapel, and a com^{tee} of 5 were chosen to prepare a plan for an annual meeting of the alumni, and submit it the next year. It was painful to see how small a number appeared to take interest in this project, the meeting, while I was there, amounting no one time to 50.

In the evening Mrs. Quincy had a splendid levee.¹ . . .

Present incumbents, 46 alone + 2 colleagues = 48.

Of the whole who preach, Liberal, 76; Orthodox, 9; Baptists, 6; Episcopalians, 2; Freewill Baptist, 1; Universalist, 1 = total at Commencement, 95.

Before me in italics alive, 4 alone, 7 colleagues = 11 in the ministry; 17 occasionally preach = 28 who preach; 20 have left preaching = 48 alive before me.

Before me alone, 3 L. + 1 E. = 4; colleagues, 3 L. + 4 O. = 7; occas^y preach, 5 L. + 12 O. = 17; left preaching, 14 L. + 6 O. = 20 = 48.

Total alive before me, in Catalogue, 191. Total alive in italics, 319.

Summary of those alive who are italicised in the Catalogue of 1839.

The whole number alive italicised is 321. Of these 197 are in office + 124 out of office. Of the 197 in office, 109 Liberal Congregationals, 47 Orthodox = 156 C.; 28 Episcopalians; 7 Baptists; 2 Presbyterians; 2 Universalists; 1 Swedenborgian; 1 Methodist. Of the 197 in office, 176 are alone + 21 are colleagues = 197.

Of the 124 out of office, 89 occasionally preach + 35 left preaching = 124.

Of 89 occasional preachers, 37 L. + 35 O. + 16 E. + 1 B. = 89.

Of the 35 left preaching, 24 L. + 11 O. = 35.

Of the 21 colleagues, 11 L. + 7 O. + 2 B. + 1 E. = 21.

By my computation alive before me on the Catalogue, 191 + 1, after me, 1772 = alive, 1964.

620 dead after me.

On the Catalogue before me, 3186 + 1 = after me, 2392. Total, 5579.

¹ Here follow accounts of the annual declamations and of the meeting of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, and the usual classified lists of names.

[1840.]

On Wednesday, 26 August, I walked to and from Cambridge to attend my LVI. Commencement at Harvard University, having attended every Commencement in that institution, beginning with 1784, except in 1791, the day on which my mother was buried.

The day was delightful, there having been copious rains on the previous Lord's day evening, and Tuesday afternoon and evening, so that the streets were rather muddy than dusty.

The temperature of the air was also such as could be desired.

This is the first Commencement which I have known when no man was allowed to wait upon ladies into the meetinghouse for fear he should remain. We were in the meetinghouse at X.

The exercises commenced with music. Dr. Walker, 2^d anniversary, then offered a short and appropriate prayer.

The salutatory oration, by Faulkner,¹ failed, I know not for what reason. N. B. He was sick & soon died.

2. Bond,² in a conference, "The Historical Novel and the Ancient Epic," wrote and spoke well in defence of the former.

3. Welch³ did well in "An Essay, Simplicity of Style as necessary to the Permanence of Literary Fame."

6. "An Essay on Poetical Inspiration," by Heath,⁴ partook of the extravagance and obscurity of Coleridge.

10. Davis⁵ was applauded in a forensic, on the affirmative side, "Is the Course which the Chinese have taken in relation to the Opium Trade justifiable?"

13. But White,⁶ of Salem, in a dissertation on "The Irish Character," was by far the most interesting writer and speaker of the day, though he was considered perhaps no higher than the 5th or 6th scholar.

18. The II. English oration, by Sanger,⁷ on "Periodical Literature," was well written and spoken.

19. The concluding oration, by Henk,⁸ on "Ultraism," evinced a good degree of originality and sensible writing; but he is rather ordinary as a speaker. . . . He is said, however, to be highly distinguished, for a man of his age, in the abstruse branches. He will

¹ William E. Faulkner, born in Cambridgeport, Nov. 26, 1817; died there, April 18, 1841.

² Rev Henry F. Bond.

³ Rev. Edward H. Welch.

⁴ John F. Heath, born in Petersburg, Va. Nov. 15, 1819; died in Wilmington, N. C., Sept. —, 1862.

⁵ Charles G. Davis.

⁶ Rev. William O. White.

⁷ George P. Sanger.

⁸ John B. Henck.

probably become a teacher by profession, for which his talents admirably fit him.

The English oration, for the Master's degree, was a plain, unambitious, and sensible discourse on "The Tyranny of Association," by Eustis.¹ 17 min.

The valedictory in Latin, by Russell,² of 18 minutes, evinced too great effort to be witty. In this respect it was tedious.

The concluding prayer, by Dr. Walker, was such as could be desired.

In the procession to the dining hall I walked with Dr. Codman.

Dr. Homer, as the oldest clergyman, asked the blessing. I set St. Martin's to the LXXVIII. Psalm, the 28th time. As there is so little visible communication between the 4 halls, a person sitting at the head table in each was employed to beat time. This was the 6th anniversary on which the psalm was the substitute for thanks. We had wine!

There are now 81 Overseers, of whom 41 are Cambridge scholars.

Present 35, of whom 26 were Cambridge schol. Governor Morton was present, and was treated with a respect due to his station.

In the afternoon at IV, there was a meeting in the Chapel; and the Report of the Com^{tee} appointed the last year, recommending to form a Society of Alumni, to meet on the day before Commencement, dine together, and have appropriate exercises, was accepted; and John Quincy Adams was chosen President.

I then went to the Chapel of the Divinity School, and heard a very interesting address on music, before the Pierian Sodality, by Henry R. Cleveland. There was a small, but select audience. Had more notice of it been given, and a larger place assigned for its delivery, there would doubtless have been a larger audience. He considered the duties of amateurs in relation to music, described in mellifluous language its charms, and hoped a Professor of Music would ere long be appointed in the University. Fifty years ago there were no pianos manufactured in New England. Now thousands are, every year, made and circulated throughout our extensive community.

In the evening I attended the splendid levee of Mrs. Quincy, and walked home a little before IX.

The graduates of this year are 43. A.M., 25; LL.B., 24; M.D., 22; Gov. Morton, Edward Hitchcock, Chs. Augustus Dewey, 3, LL.D.; Rev. John Codman, D.D., & Rev. Joseph Field, 2, D.D.

The Bachelors who had assignments were 27; of these, 3 only failed, viz., the salutatory oration, a literary disquisition, & a part in one of the forensics.

The oldest graduate, the oldest clergyman, and the clergyman who

¹ Dr. John F. Eustis, of the class of 1837.

² Charles T. Russell, of the class of 1837.

asked the blessing at dinner, were united in one man, Rev. Jonathan Homer, of Newton, born in Boston, 15 April, 1759; grad. 1777. This was the 3^d anniversary in which he has been the oldest graduate, the 5th the oldest clergyman, & the 5th on which he has asked the blessing at dinner.

For the 2^d time I was the oldest clergyman present who has the sole care of his parish. Gentlemen of distinction present both days, Col. Maxwell, of the 36th British Regiment, a Scotchman; Mr. Grattan, Consul from England, an Irishman; Dr. Cox, Dr. Skinner, of N. Y., &c., &c., &c.¹ . . .

Alive in the Catalogue, in italics, 318.

Alive *before* me on the Catalogue, $176 +$ alive *after* me on the Catalogue, $1792 + 1 =$ alive, 1969.

Dead after me, $642 + 1969 = 2611$.

On the Catalogue before me, $3186 + 1 +$ on the Catalogue after me $2435 = 5622$.² . . .

Accordingly there were present alumni in italics, 78; pastors, not alumni, of Congregational chhs., Mass., 6; pastors of Orthodox chhs. & professors, 10; pastors of Baptist chhs., 5; = 99.

The oldest graduate living, on the Catalogue, for the last 3 Commencements is Samson Salter Blowers, of Halifax, born 22 March, 1742, of the class of 1763. N. B. He has been the oldest survivor since the death of Paine Wingate, 7 March, 1838.

Before me, in italics, alive.

2 alone + 8 colleagues = 10 in the ministry; 17 occasionally preach = 27 who preach; 18 have left preaching = 45 alive before me.

Before me, alone, 1 E. + 1 L. = 2; colleagues, 4 L. + 4 O. = 8; occa^y preach, 5 L. + 12 O. = 17; left preaching, 13 L. + 5 O. = 18.

[1841.]

On Wednesday, 25 August, 1841, I attended my LVII. Commencement at Harvard University, every occasion of the kind, beginning with 1784, except 1791, on which day my mother was buried; so that I have now attended fifty Commencements in uninterrupted succession.

The day was clear and comfortable, with the exception that it was very dusty.

The Overseers met for the first time in the Gore Library, a large

¹ Here follow notices of the prize declamations and of the anniversary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, and some tabular statements relating to Dr. Pierce's seniors and contemporaries.

² Here follow other classified lists of names of persons who were present at Commencement.

and elegant stone building, built at an expense of about \$70,000, from funds left by the Hon. Christopher Gore, H. U. 1776.

The Overseers held their meeting to transact their preparatory business in a convenient room adjoining the Library.

The Governor (John Davis) & suite having arrived in good season, escorted by an elegant company of Lancers from Boston, the procession moved into the meetinghouse so as to commence the exercises at a little past ten.

Dr. Walker, of the Corporation, opened the meeting with a highly appropriate prayer.

The salutatory oration, in Latin, by E. A. W. Harlow, was but 4 minutes long, well written and spoken.

4. An essay, "Guesses at Truth leading to Discoveries," by Eben Sperry Stearns.¹ This was ingeniously composed and delivered. This is the fourth son of the Rev. Samuel Stearns, of 1794, late of Bedford, educated at Harvard University, all of whom have been respectable scholars.

First, Rev. Samuel H. Stearns, 1823, settled for a little time in the Old South Church. Died early of consumption.

Second, Rev. Wm. Augustus Stearns, now Orthodox minister, Cambridgeport, 1827.

Third, Rev. Jonathan French Stearns, Presbyterian minister in Newburyport, 1830. Their mother was daughter of the Rev. Jonathan French, of Andover.

7. Christopher Gore Ripley² did well in a literary discussion with Franklin Hall³ on Shakspeare.

9. An ethical disquisition by Robert Henry Harlow, on "The Morals of Legislation," was thought by good judges to be among the very first exercises on this occasion.

10. A deliberative discussion, "The Political Influence of the Roman Catholic Church in Republics," by Pray⁴ & Smith,⁵ contained too many severe reflections on the Catholics, considering there were several of our guests of that denomination.

The two Harlows and Pray are from Baptist families.

Indeed, it is remarkable how this denomination has increased in numbers, respectability, and literature, in this country, since the Revolutionary War.

12. A dissertation, "William Penn," by William Gustavus Babcock, was finely written and spoken.

¹ Born in Bedford, Dec. 23, 1819; died in Nashville, Tenn., April 11, 1887.

² Born in Waltham, Sept. 6, 1822; died in Concord, Oct. 15, 1881.

³ Born in East Cambridge, August 8, 1817; died in Dorchester, August 6, 1868.

⁴ Rev. Edward W. Pray, born in Boston, June 25, 1822; died in Rochester, N. Y., Feb. 10, 1888

⁵ T. C. H. Smith.

14. The third English oration, on "Political Ambition," by Hoffman,¹ son of Judge Hoffman, of N. Y., was a manly performance. 10 m.

15. The second English oration, "Poetry in an Unpoetical Age," was by Thomas W. Higginson. 12 m.

16. The last oration, by Francis Edward Parker,² only child of the late Dr. Nathan Parker, of Portsmouth, N. H., was such as to evince that the honor was not unworthily conferred. 13 min.

The oration for the Master's degree, by Rufus Ellis,³ abounded in good sense, but was not adapted to electrify the audience. Indeed, there was less humor than common in the exercises of the day.

The Latin valedictory, by Benjamin F. Atkins,⁴ often the most amusing to the audience in general, lost much of its effect by being imperfectly committed to memory.

In the class for A.B., 23 had assignments, of whom 21 performed. The failures were an essay by Rollins; part in a forensic by Jackson.

The degree of A.B., 42 in course, 1 out of course; A.M., 20 in course, 6 out of course; M.D., 16; LL.B., 24; LL.D., Samuel Sumner Wilde, James Savage, Francis C. Gray, Francis Xavier Martin; D.D., James Thompson, Mark Hopkins, Barnas Sears.

The concluding prayer was by Dr. Walker, short, pertinent, and devout.

The procession walked to the dining hall between II & III. I walked with Dr. Gray and Dr. Homer.

Dr. Homer, H. U. 1777, asked the blessing, the 6th anniversary, as the oldest clergyman present, also the oldest graduate.

I set St. Martin's, 29th time, to the LXXVIII. Psalm, & the 7th anniversary as a substitute for thanks. Wine was on the tables!

The President gave the degrees to the Masters with a Bible, formerly owned by the first President, Dunster. It has the original Hebrew of the Old Testament, the translation of the New Testament into Hebrew, and the New Testament in Greek. Printed in 1633. It has been lately sent to President Quincy by the Misses Dunster, of Brewster, daughters of the Rev. Isaiah Dunster, native of Cambridge, H. U. 1741, ordained at Brewster, 13 Nov., 1748, died 18 June, 1791. Æt. 72, descendant of the first President.

These ladies are now beneficiaries of the Massachusetts Cong. Char. Soc. & Convention!

¹ Wickham Hoffman.

² Francis E. Parker, born in Portsmouth, N. H., July 23, 1821; died in Boston, Jan. 18, 1886. A memoir of Mr. Parker, by Edward Bangs, is in 2 *Proceedings*, vol. iii. pp. 247-252.

³ Of the class of 1838.

⁴ Of the class of 1838.

In this Bible, on the last page, is a Church Covenant, probably used by Rev. Isaiah Dunster.

"You [each of you] do solemnly assent, as in the presence of God, his holy Angels, and this Assembly, to accept of, and submit to, the only living and true God, as your God; the Lord Jesus Christ, as your Savior, Prophet, Priest, and King; the Holy Spirit, as your Guide and Comforter.

You do also promise [to bring up your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord] to attend to the Ordinances, & submit yourselves to the government of Christ in this particular Church, though you be not satisfied in conscience as to your coming up to the ordinance of the Lord's Supper."

This is the 4th anniversary on which Dr. Homer has been the oldest graduate; the 6th on which he has been the oldest minister; the 6th on which he has asked the blessing.

This is also the 3^d anniversary on which I have been the oldest clergyman present, having the sole care of his parish.

There are now 82 Overseers of Harvard University. Of these 38 are sons of Harvard. Present at Commencement but 32. Of these 23 are Cantabrigians.

There was no meeting of the alumni. It had been intended to observe the first anniversary of the Society on the day before Commencement. For this purpose Hon. John Quincy Adams was chosen to deliver the first Anniversary Address. Judge Story was chosen as his substitute. But Mr. Adams was detained by the extra session of Congress. Judge Story has recently had an illness, which he urged as an excuse from the allotted exercise.

10 were present of the class of 1802.

No strangers of distinction were present. The only officers of other institutions whom I recollect were President Sears & Professors Chase & Ripley of the Newton Theological Institution, Professor Romeo Elton of Brown University, Professor Cogswell of Dartmouth College & Dr. Going, B.¹ . . .

Alive before me, $164 + 1$; alive after me, $1822 = 1987$, whole number alive.

By accurate computation, on Catalogue, 1839, before me 3204, after me $2482 + 1 = 5687$, whole number of alumni.

Dead before me $= 3040$; dead after me, $660 = 3700$, whole number dead.

Before me in italics alive, 1 alone, 9 colleagues $= 10$ in the ministry, 17 occasionally preach $= 27$ who preach; 17 have left preaching $= 44$ alive before me.

¹ Here follow notices of the prize declamations and of the anniversary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, and some of the usual statistics.

[1842.]

On Wednesday, 24 August, 1842, I attended my LVIII. Commencement at H. U.

The day was hot; the travelling dry and dusty, though around the College the dust was laid by artificial means.

The preliminary meeting of the Overseers was holden in Gore Library at a little before X, A. M., whence the procession moved into the meeting-house, so that the services commenced in the church a few minutes past X.

This is the first year in which the following notice was published in the order of exercises.

A part at Commencement is assigned to every Senior, who, for general scholarship, is placed in the first half of his class, or who has attained a certain rank in any department of study.

The names of the departments in which the student has attained the requisite rank are inserted in the order of performances with his name.

High distinction in any department is indicated by italics.

The salutatory oration by Allen,¹ of 8 minutes, was appropriate.

Six English orations were assigned. The last & most honorable, by Haven,² of Portsmouth, N. H., was omitted, through indisposition. So also was the 6th, by Nichols,³ from the same cause. S. H. Phillips, of Salem, has been obliged to retreat from college, on account of infirmities, as is thought, by reason of the intense application demanded by the pressure of college studies.

The 2^d E. O. in honor was by Johnson,⁴ of Salem, 17 minutes, a beautiful exercise, on national songs.

The 3^d E. O., by Hale,⁵ son of the somewhat famous Sarah J. Hale, of Boston, whose eldest son, the first scholar in his class, left college, some years since, to go on the exploring expedition appointed by the government of the U. S.

The 4th E. O., by Jaques,⁶ on "American National Legislation," of 14 minutes, was a subject too difficult for so young a man.

The 5th E. O., by Fish,⁷ of 7 minutes, "On the Faëry Superstition in English Literature," was ingenious and popular.

¹ Rev. T. P. Allen, born in Northborough, July 7, 1822; died in West Newton, Nov. 26, 1868.

² Horace A. Haven, born in Portsmouth, N. H., Oct. 2, 1822; died there, Oct. 22, 1843.

³ Benjamin W. Nichols.

⁴ Rev. Samuel Johnson, born in Salem, Oct. 10, 1822; died in North Andover, Feb. 19, 1882.

⁵ William G. Hale, born in Boston, Oct. 28, 1822; died in New Orleans, La., Jan. 8, 1876.

⁶ David R. Jaques.

⁷ Asa I. Fish, born in Nottingham, N. J., Feb. 16, 1820; died in Philadelphia, Penn., May 5, 1876.

The oration for the Masters, by Edward Everett Hale,¹ of 20 minutes, was well written and spoken. This exercise would have been assigned to Eliot,² the first scholar in the class, but for his absence.

The valedictory, by Jacobs,³ of 7 minutes, was in the usual style of such exercises.

The services were closed sooner than the steward expected. We therefore walked to the Gore Library, and waited our summons to dinner.

On being seated in the hall, by my nomination the Rev. Silas Totten, Episcopal President of Washington College, in Hartford, Conn., asked the blessing.

Notwithstanding the entreaties & remonstrances of so many temperance friends of the University, wine was on the tables. As I sat opposite to ——— and other military officers in their costumes, I saw much wine-drinking. When will this "abomination of desolation" be banished from the halls of Old Harvard?

To add to the annoyance of many attendants, cigars were smoked without mercy!

The Hon. John Welles, being the oldest at dinner, bo. 14 Oct., 1764, the oldest in the hall, H. U. 1782, prefaced a toast with a short speech which but few heard.

I set St. Martin's, the 30th time, to the LXXVIII. Psalm, and the 8th anniversary as a substitute for thanks.

Dr. Gray was the oldest clergyman in the hall; and as his colleague, the Rev. George Whitney, died last April, he was the oldest clergyman present having the sole care of his parish. This has been the case with myself at 3 previous Commencements.

After leaving the hall I called at Capen's chamber, one of the graduates, son of my friend, the Rev. Lemuel Capen.

I then went to the levee of Mrs. President Quincy, where were assembled great numbers of ladies and strangers of distinction. The brass band, as usual, added much to the interest of the occasion by their fine music.⁴ . . .

Admitted to the degree of A.B., 55; A.M., in course, 22; out of course, 6; M.D., 21; LL.B., 39; John Davis, Artemas Ward, Samuel Hubbard, LL.D., 3; Rev. Dr. Wm. Jenks, Rev. W. B. O. Peabody, D.D., 2; Lucius Manlius Sargent, Wm. Cranch Bond, Hon. A.M., 2.

¹ Of the class of 1839.

² Samuel Eliot, of the class of 1839.

³ Bela F. Jacobs, of the class of 1839.

⁴ Dr. Pierce gives lists of "seniors and contemporaries" and other alumni whom he saw, and adds: "Before me in italics, 2 alone, 6 colleagues = 8 in ministry; 13 occasionally preach = 21 preach; 16 have left preaching = 37 alive before me. 144 alive before me in Catalogue." On another page he gives a list of "ministers laid by as broken vessels." It comprises 50 names, beginning with 1777 and ending with 1832.

The oldest graduate and the oldest minister at Cambridge during these 3 days was the Rev. Jonathan Homer, of 1777.

[1843.]

On Wednesday, 23 August, 1843, I attended my LIX. Commencement at Harvard University, every one since I began with the Commencement in 1784, but in 1791, when my mother was buried on Commencement day.

As there had been rain for three previous days, the streets instead of being dusty, as common on such occasions, and requiring artificial means to lay the dust, were very muddy, so as to render it difficult to cross them. At Gore Library III. anniversary.

The Governor and suite arrived in such season that the exercises commenced but a little after X in the morning.

Rev. Dr. Walker, of the Corporation, introduced the services with an appropriate prayer of 2½ minutes.

The Latin salutatory was by Octavius Brooks Frothingham, son of Dr. Frothingham, of Boston I. Church. It appeared to be elegantly written, and was delivered with much grace and propriety. It contained what is unusual on such occasions, an elaborate address to John Quincy Adams. Had he not been present, the effect of the oration would have been much less striking.

There were, as on the last year, 6 English orations.

The VIth in honor was by John Lowell, son of John A. Lowell, a member of the Corporation, grandson of John Lowell, former member of the Corporation, great-great-grandson of the Rev. John Lowell, the first minister of Newburyport. The subject of this oration was, "The Battle of the Nile," 8 minutes in length, a summary of the principal facts.

The V. English oration, by William Henry Adams,¹ of North Chelmsford, on "Our Debt to the Puritans," was not performed.

The IV. English oration, by James Howard Means, Boston, on "The Literary Services of the American Missionaries," of 9 minutes, was well done.

The III. English oration, "The Fall of Athens," by Washington Very,² of Salem, was of 12 minutes, well written, but spoken in too monotonous a tone.

The II. English oration, by Thomas Hill, of New Brunswick, N. J., on "Mathematics," 15 minutes long, was decidedly the most interesting exercise of the day. It was original, discriminating, finely written, and though on so apparently dry a subject, truly eloquent. It was expected

¹ Born Nov. 28, 1823; died August 4, 1845.

² Born Nov. 12, 1815; died April 28, 1853.

that he would have the first assignment in the class; but his attention has been divided among so many objects that he was exceeded in recitation exercises by Sargent, whose attention has been perseveringly and uninterruptedly devoted to the attainment of the first honors.

. . . Professor Pierce thinks him the best mathematician who has, for many years, been educated at H. U., and expressed the wish to Hill that he might be Professor of Mathematics in some literary institution. To which proposal Hill replied, that he would rather be the pastor of a country congregation than fill any professorship which could be provided for him. The reason why Hill sought his education at Cambridge is, that he is a Unitarian of the Priestley stamp, his parents having been formerly his parishioners in Hackney, England.

The I. oration, by Sargent,¹ on "The Correction of Popular Tendencies," was well composed and delivered, but not with that deep feeling which imparted such a charm to Hill's exercise. Sargent's oration occupied, like Hill's, precisely 15 minutes.

A disquisition by Bacon,² of Natick, of 8 minutes, on "Transcendental Views of Inductive Philosophy," was a solid and good performance.

A disquisition on "Sir Philip Sidney," of 8 minutes, by Morrell,³ of Havana, W. I., did him much credit.

The poem, on "American Women," by Sedgwick,⁴ did not captivate the audience as was expected. It was 11 minutes long.

A disquisition by Boyden,⁵ of Beverly, on "The Attraction of Literary Eccentricity," 10 minutes long, gave offence to the theological professors, as in supposed allusion to the Divinity School, Cambridge, he intimated, on the authority, it is believed, of a hasty expression dropt some years since by the late Professor Palfrey, that "one third were Mystics, one third Sceptics, and the other Dyspeptics." Professor Francis maintained, in conversation, that Professor Channing ought not to have suffered such a sentence to pass.

The English oration for the Master's degree, on "The Faith of the Present," by Joseph Henry Allen,⁶ 23 minutes long, though elaborated with great apparent care, yet was rather too misty for matter-of-fact hearers.

The valedictory, in Latin, by Russell,⁷ of Plymouth, 16 minutes

¹ Horace Binney Sargent.

² John W. Bacon, born in Natick, July 12, 1818; died in Taunton, March 21, 1888.

³ Edward Morrell, born in Philadelphia, Oct. 1, 1824; died in Newport, R. I., Sept. 3, 1871.

⁴ Henry D. Sedgwick.

⁵ James W. Boyden.

⁶ Of the class of 1840.

⁷ William G. Russell, of the class of 1840.

long, as usual affected wit, much of which, also as usual, aimed at the ladies.

The President then conferred the following degrees, viz., A.B. 63; A.M. in course, 14; out of course, 4; M.D., 31; LL.B. in course, 36; out of course, 1; LL.D., Wm. Smyth, Eng., Wm. H. Prescott, Jared Sparks, Geo. Bancroft; D.D., Rev. David Damon, E. S. Gannett, Dr. Sharp, Dr. Potter.

The Board of Overseers when full consists of 83. I took account of but 35 at Commencement. Of these, 20 were sons of Harvard.

But few strangers of distinction were present. Hon. Benjamin Tappan, Senator in Congress, was one, my brother-in-law, who had an honorable seat assigned him. Mons. Serrurier was also present; likewise Dr. Totten, President of Washington College, Hartford; Pres. Woods, of Bowdoin College; Bishops Doane & Eastburn.

On arriving at the hall, I was, for the IV. anniversary, the oldest clergyman having the sole care of his parish. What was my surprise to find none after me till 1802, nine years my juniors?

It was decided by all of whom I inquired that it would fall to me to ask the blessing at dinner, as the senior clergyman present. To this I consented, avowing at the same time that it should be the only time, should my life be prolonged. A blessing was supplicated in these terms:—

“God of light and of love, smile propitiously on our parent University, the pious care of our fathers, the joy, the glory, the hope of their children. May its governors, teachers, and pupils mutually combine to advance its highest interests! To thy kind care we devoutly commend that portion of this literary community who have this day received and reflected its honors. May thy good Providence accompany and direct them wherever they may go. Bless, we pray thee, our food and fellowship at this time. While we mingle our congratulations, and rejoice in each other's joy, may our feelings be chastened by the consideration that every such occasion deducts one more year from the short span of human life, and swells the number of those who go to their long home; and oh! may we not be slothful, but followers of them who, through faith and patience, inherit the promises, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.”

The dinner was very soon despatched. Indeed, the Bishops and others compared it to a steamboat dinner, on account of the haste in which it was eaten. The reason probably was, that many present were invited to the private chambers of the graduates who had company, and others followed.

At the close of the dinner President Quincy arose and remarked that from the foundation of the University it had been customary to sing a version of the LXXVIII. Psalm, and that it would now be set by one who had set it for the last 50 years. I accordingly arose, and sang the psalm to St. Martin's. Though I had an instrument to give the pitch, yet in my confusion it was one or two notes too high. This made it the

more difficult to sing. But it was said by several to have gone well. When I used first to set the tune, I was required to read the psalm line by line, as none were printed for the occasion. This was really the 31st time in which I had myself set the tune, though I began to set it on 17 July, 1793; 50 years ago, the year in which I was graduated. This was the 9th anniversary on which the tune was a substitute for thanks.

After the exercises I called at Hudson's chamber, where were several from Newburyport; also at Sargent's, whose father made for him a most splendid entertainment. Here were coming and going the élites of the day. But though the provision for guests was ample, and the very best of the kind, yet from Mr. Sargent's position in the temperance cause there was no wine.

The same cannot be said of the Commencement dinner in the hall. Wine in abundance was furnished; and though but comparatively few partook of it while the company were together, yet afterwards there was a gathering of wine-bibbers and tobacco-smokers who filled their skins with vinous potations, the hall with a nauseous effluvia, and the air with bacchanalian songs and shouts.

At a little past V, company began to assemble at Mrs. Quincy's levee, at the President's house. Here many people gather to converse with one another, who attend no part of the Commencement exercises. To add to the entertainment, the brass band, as usual, discoursed sweet music in the President's yard. In the evening I walked home.

In the Boston Courier, Friday, 25 August, was the following editorial remark:—

"After the exercises in the meetinghouse, the Corporation, Faculty, Overseers, alumni, & invited guests dined in the picture-gallery of the University. The Rev. Dr. Pierce, of Brookline, invoked a blessing at the table. At the close of the dinner, the President remarked that there would then be sung a hymn, which had been sung there annually, on the same occasion, for *two hundred years*, by a gentleman who had sung it there for fifty years in succession. The Rev. Dr. Pierce then led off the following, to the tune of St. Martin's:

" 'Give ear,' &c.

"We should like to see a copy of these verses two hundred years old. If we remember right, at the Commencement in 1842, Dr. Pierce made a declaration similar to that made, on this occasion, by President Quincy, viz., that they had been sung at the Commencement dinner for two hundred years. We apprehend that both gentlemen are under a mistake. We should be sorry to throw any suspicion upon the accuracy of their antiquarian learning; but if there is any reason to believe that certain poets of a later period wrote their own works, the first three stanzas above were written by one Nahum Tate, poet-laureate to her gracious Majesty Queen Anne, and the last two stanzas by one Isaac Watts, who wrote a version of the Psalms of David a few years later. But of this no more at present."

Now President Quincy could not mean, and I certainly never intended to assert, that this identical version had been used for two hundred years, for I knew well to the contrary. When I first set the psalm,

17 July, 1793, it was not printed in bills as at present. But I read them, line by line, the first six stanzas from Tate & Brady's version. I continued this practice till 1803, when for the first time a version of the LXXVIII. Psalm was printed on a sheet; & it has been printed in this form to the present time, but not precisely the same stanzas. For more than twenty years there were six stanzas printed from Tate & Brady's book. But for the last 13 years at least but five stanzas have been printed, and these immediately and verbatim from Dr. Belknap's collection, first published in 1795. Yet one stanza is omitted even from Belknap's collection; and he has made slight variations even from Tate & Watts. Thus in the first line on the printed bills from Tate we have

"Give ear, ye children," instead of

"Hear, O my people," &c.

In the 3^d line of the first stanza, we have "instructions," instead of "*instruction*."

In the 4th stanza on the bill, the first line from Watts, we have "*learn*" for "*hear*."

I have been led into these trivial particulars in reply to the trifling criticism above noted.

In fine, I have always understood that it has been the invariable practice since the foundation of the College to sing some version of a portion of the LXXVIII. Psalm.

This version has varied with the taste of the times, from that of Sternhold & Hopkins, appended to the Geneva Bible, so called; next to that of the New England version of 1639 by Weld, Eliot, & Mather, the 26th edition of which was published in 1744; then Tate & Brady's version; then Dr. Watts's; & last, not least, Dr. Belknap's, 1795.

Not only have the versions been varied, but the number of stanzas. Of late years the number has been limited to 5 stanzas.

So that there is nothing in our usages to prevent the use of a still improved version, should such a one, in process of time, appear, retaining, however, for its basis the LXXVIII. Psalm in our common translation of the Bible. We always desire to offer our best services to the Most High, if we can but ascertain how we may best approach him in the delightful exercise of psalmody.¹ . . .

This was the first Commencement on which Dr. H. Ware, Sen^r, has been absent for the last 63. He attended every Commencement, since the war, beginning with 1781, i. e., 62 Commencements.

This was the IV. Commencement on which I have been the senior pastor, having the sole care of his parish.

¹ Here follow the order of exercises and names of the judges of the prize declamations, an account of the anniversary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, and the usual statistical and personal memoranda.

Before me, in italics, 1 alone + 6 colleagues = 7 in ministry; 9 occasionally preach = 16 preach; 14 have left preaching = 30 alive before me in italics. 128 alive before me in Catalogue.

The oldest graduate at Commencement, this year, was Judge John Davis, H. U. 1781, born 25 January, 1761, accordingly 82 years & 7 months, lacking 2 days.

[1844.]

On Wednesday, 28 August, 1844, I attended my LX. Commencement at Harvard University, every one since I began in 1784, excepting in the year 1791, when my mother was buried.

It was cloudy most of the day, so that the temperature of the weather was pleasant. It had rained copiously on the previous Sabbath, so that there was no dust.

After dining with the alumni on Tuesday, 27 August, I walked by appointment to Dr. Braman's, physician in Brighton, son of my old friend, the Rev. Isaac Braman, of Georgetown, where I took tea. He had invited the survivors of his father's class to meet at his house the day before Commencement. Eight are supposed to be living, four of whom were together on this occasion, namely, Rev. Isaac Braman, of Georgetown, born 5 July, 1770; Rev. Elijah Dunbar, Peterborough, N. H., born 7 July, 1773; Rev. James Blake Howe, lately Episcopal minister of Claremont, N. H., born 31 March, 1773; and the Rev. David Kendall, formerly of Hubbardston, now of Augusta, N. Y., born 20 March, 1768. I was invited as their intimate friend, though not classmate. There was a melancholy pleasure in reviewing past scenes, and in contemplating the changes which we had lived to witness.

This class had but 29 when it was graduated. Of these but 8 are supposed to be among the living. Dr. Braman received answers from the Hon. H. Atherton, Amherst, N. H.; Hon. William Crosby, Belfast, Me.; & Stephen Peabody, Bucksport, Me., all of whom gave some encouragement that they would be present, but circumstances prevented. Not one of the 4 who were present is now in the ministry.

The Overseers met in Gore Library, the IV. anniversary. The Governor was escorted from Boston to Cambridge by a troop of Lancers on horseback.

Of the 83 Overseers which compose the Board when full, I took account of but 27 present on this occasion. Of the 83, 30 are sons of Harvard. Of the 27 present, 18 were Cambridge scholars.

The usual preparatory business of voting the degrees was despatched, so that at X precisely the procession was formed and moved to the I. Church.

Dr. Walker offered an appropriate prayer of 5 minutes.

The exercises consisted of the following, which were performed:

1 salutatory Latin oration, 1 intermediate do., 8 disquisitions, 4 dissertations, 6 English orations, 1 Greek oration, 1 English poem.

The following assigned, but omitted: 5 disquisitions, 2 dissertations, 1 English oration.

22 performed, 8 not performed; total, 30.

There was a remarkable uniformity in the execution of the parts, with the exception of the last and most honorable oration, which was pre-eminent in merit as well as in assignment.

This was by Josiah Shattuck Hartwell, of Littleton, "On the Political Fortunes and Destinies of the Anglo-Saxon Race." 20 minutes.

The best speaker was supposed to be Tilton,¹ who performed a poem "On Little Nell," &c.

Perry,² in a disquisition on "Respect for Custom and Habit in Social Changes," was lauded in the papers next to Hartwell.

My greatest anxiety was for Edward Augustus Wild, son of my doctor, born 26 Nov., 1825, who sustained the 5th rank in point of honor. He had written an exercise which Professor Channing thought too satirical for the occasion. He then wrote, in a few hours, another oration, entitled "The True Man of Action," which was quite a sensible exercise, and received with general approbation.

The oration in English omitted was by Fuller,³ on "The Physical Sciences," the 2^d part in honor.

Leverett Saltonstall, Jr., of Salem, had a good disquisition on "Clarendon as a Statesman." Governor Briggs remarked that he looked and spoke more like Henry Clay than any young man whom he had ever known.

Francis Parkman, Jr., of Boston, on "Romance in America," evinced more humor than any of the class. His wit was, in repeated instances, applauded.

This was the first Commencement, probably, since the foundation of the College in which no exercises were assigned to candidates for the Master's degree.

Though I have known college exercises which might be ranked higher, and many which were lower than any on this occasion, yet I ventured the opinion that, as far as I am capable of judging, I have attended no Commencement in which the exercises, taken as a whole, were so uniformly good.

At dinner the blessing was invoked by Dr. Packard, H. U. 1787. He had returned thanks once before, viz., in 1831. The Rev. Jacob Norton, formerly of Weymouth, H. U. 1786, was invited, as the senior

¹ Warren Tilton.

² Horatio J. Perry.

³ Richard F. Fuller, born in Cambridge, May 15, 1824; died in Wayland, May 30, 1869.

clergyman present, to ask the blessing. But he declined on the ground that he had lost his voice. III. An⁷ in the new hall.

At the close of dinner we sang the LXXVIII. Psalm, for the Xth anniversary, as a substitute for thanks, in the version of Belknap, I setting the tune the 32^d time.

As Buckingham, in the Boston Courier last year, severely criticised what was said of our psalm, with leave of the President I arose and stated that from the foundation of the College it had been the practice to sing at the Commencement dinner the LXXVIII. Psalm in the prevalent version of the day. From the commencement of the University it was probably sung in the New England version.

In 1639 there was an agreement among the Magistrates and Ministers to set aside the psalms then printed at the end of their Bibles, and sing one more congenial to their ideas of religion. (I have the XXVI. edition, published in 1744.) Mr. Welde & Mr. Eliot, of Roxbury, & Mr. Richard Mather, of Dorchester, were selected to prepare a metrical translation.

On which occasion the Rev. Thomas Shepard, of Cambridge, gave them the following metrical caution:—

“Ye Roxbury poets, keep clear of the crime
Of missing to give us very good rhyme;
And you of Dorchester, your verses lengthen;
But with the text’s own words you will them strengthen.”

Their version is the following:—

“Give listening ear unto my law,
Ye people that are mine;
Unto the sayings of my mouth
Do you your ear incline.

“My mouth I’ll ope in parables;
I’ll speak things hid of old,
Which we have heard, and known, and which
Our fathers have us told.

“Them from their children we’ll not hide,
But show the age to come
The Lord, His praise, His strength, and works
Of wonder He hath done.

“In Jacob He a witness set,
A law in Israel
He gave, which He our fathers charged,
They should their children tell.

"That th' age to come, and children which
Are to be born might know;
That they who should arise, the same
Might to their children show."

There dined in the hall this day 500, and the bottles of wine furnished were 144; 72 were exhausted.¹

Of class of 1802, 14 were present.

From the dining hall I called at Wild's chamber, where there had been a generous entertainment of Brookline people, &c.

I then went to the room of the Rev. Dr. Codman's son Robert, who had a sumptuous entertainment, without wine, for his Dorchester friends, &c. The Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the President of the University, &c., called to express their gratulations.

At the close of the day Mrs. Quincy had her usual splendid levee, which many attended who had not been present at the Commencement exercises. The brass band was in the yard of the house, discoursing fine music. For my special accommodation they performed Tivoli, Auld Lang Syne, & Marseilles Hymn.

Degrees conferred, A.B., 52; A.M., 13; M.D., 35; LL.B., 36; LL.D., Gov. Briggs, John Sargeant, Charles Lyell; D.D., Andrew Bigelow, Edwards A. Park; A.M. Hon., Hosea Ballou, 2^d, Prof. Asa Gray, R. C. Waterston, Nathan Appleton, Jonathan Mason Warren, M.D.² . . .

First class in which a majority are living, 1796. Last class in which a majority are dead, 1807. Last class in which all are dead, 1780. Only class in which all are alive, 1844.

Before me in italics, 1 alone + 5 colleagues = 6 in ministry; 8 occasionally preach = 14 preach; 14 have left preaching = 28 alive before me in italics; 115 alive before me in Catalogue.³ . . .

¹ On another page Dr. Peirce gives some curious details and estimates of the wine drunk at the dinner of the Alumni Association, August 27, at the Commencement dinner, August 28, and at the dinner of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, August 29. At the first the wines furnished were claret and champagne. According to his statement, 12 dozen bottles of claret and 10 dozen of champagne were ordered; and of these 3 dozen of claret and 7 dozen of champagne were used; and he makes the average consumption to have been "about $\frac{1}{3}$ of a bottle apiece." At the Commencement dinner the wines were Sicily Madeira and claret, and the average consumption was "about $\frac{1}{3}$ a bottle apiece." At the dinner of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the wines were old Madeira, old Sherry, and claret, and the average consumption by the hundred and ninety-four members who dined together was "from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ a bottle apiece." The average of the three dinners he makes "nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ of a bottle apiece."

² The order of exercises for the declamations, the account of the anniversary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, and a few memoranda here follow.

³ The names of those in italics before him who were then living are here given.

Living in italics in the Catalogue of H. U., Commencement, 1844 . . . Of these Liberal Congregationalists, 182; Orthodox do., 77; Episcopalians, 44; Baptists, 10; Universalists, 3; Swedenborgians, 2; Methodist, 1; Presbyterian, 1; Roman Catholic, 1 = 321.

Of 182 Lib. C., 145 preach + 37 do not = 182. Incumbents of chhs., 106; Colleagues, 10.

Of 77 O., 68 preach, 9 do not = 77.

[1845.]

On Wednesday, 27 August, 1845, I attended my LXI. Anniversary Commencement at Cambridge, all, beginning with 1784, but July, 1791, when my mother was buried.

The former part of the day was dry and cool. But on leaving the church, after the exercises, in going to the hall to dine, it rained violently.¹

The hall was quite full, 550 plates having been occupied; and more were added.

Rev. Isaac Braman, H. U. 1794, of Georgetown, formerly Rowley, born 5 July, 1770, and ordained 7 June, 1797, asked the blessing. Instead of thanks as formerly, we sang a version of the LXXVIII. Psalm, I setting the tune for the XIth anniversary on which it was substituted for thanks, and the 33^d time in which I have set the tune. N. B. I began to set the tune when I was graduated, 17 July, 1793, & have generally set it ever since when I dined in the hall.

A very long procession walked to the church, many more than could find room on the stage. I was sorry to see comparatively young men who had no just claims take seats on the stage to the exclusion of several old men, over 70.

The salutatory oration, by Reynolds,² 14 minutes long, was a fine performance.

The V. English oration in honor was by Force,³ of Washington, D. C., an able performance.

Glover,⁴ in the IV. English oration, appeared well as a speaker and writer.

Pringle,⁵ of Charleston, S. C., on the Sphinx of Egypt, evinced fine talents for writing and speaking. 3^d E. O. in honor.

Wm. Giles Dix, in a dissertation on "The Relation of Science to

¹ Rain on Com^t days, 1796, 1798, 1835, 1837, 1845.—*Note by Dr. Pierce.*

² Dr. John P. Reynolds.

³ Manning F. Force. The subject of his oration was "The Pontificate of Leo X."

⁴ Charles H. Glover, born in Nantucket, Feb. 19, 1825; died in Brooklyn, N. Y., Oct. 18, 1885. His oration was on "The Jesuits in South America."

⁵ Edward J. Pringle.

Revelation," wrote well, and appeared like a youth of deep religious impressions.

The concluding oration, by Thomas Russell,¹ evinced his title to the first honors.

The 2^d English oration, by Emerson,² was omitted on account of his ill health.

Notwithstanding all the efforts of the friends of temperance to exclude wine, it was furnished in abundance, though a large portion of the company abstained from its use. There was, however, not so much disorder as is often occasioned by the votaries of Bacchus.

The Overseers met in Gore Hall, the V. anniversary. The Governor was escorted from Boston to Cambridge, as before, by a troop of Lancers.

For the 2^d anniversary no exercises were assigned to the Masters.

As this was the last Commencement on which President Quincy, having resigned his office, was expected to officiate, the concluding orator bade him an affectionate farewell.

In addition to this, before leaving the church for dinner, the Governor read the following resolutions in respect of Pres. Quincy's resignation, which had been prepared by John Q. Adams for the purpose, and made an appropriate address. President Quincy answered in a few words.

The Committee of the Board of Overseers of Harvard University, to which was referred, on 24 July last, the communication from the Corporation of that Institution, announcing the resignation of President Josiah Quincy, and asking leave to choose a successor, have taken cognizance of Mr. Quincy's letter to the Corporation, tendering his resignation, and of the answer to that letter, signed unanimously by the members of the Corporation, and respectfully report the following Resolutions.

Resolved, by the Board of Overseers of Harvard University, That, while concurring with the Corporation of that venerable Institution in accepting the tendered resignation of President Josiah Quincy, they declare their entire and cordial concurrence with every sentiment of personal respect, and of grateful approbation of the administration of that high and dignified office, throughout the period during which it has been held by Mr. Quincy, expressed in a letter to him, signed 20 March last by the members of the Corporation.

Resolved, That in addition to the tribute of justice to Mr. Quincy for the able and indefatigable discharge of all the ordinary and appropriate duties of the President of the highest and most antient seminary of learning of this hemisphere, the Board of Overseers consider him entitled to the thanks not only of this community, but of this and of future ages, for the untiring zeal, the unbending firmness, and successful perseverance with which he has labored to maintain the discipline indispensable to the efficiency of any public school of instruction, for the unremitting exertions which he has applied to the elevation and enlargement of the circle of science embraced in the qualifications for admission to the

¹ Thomas Russell, born in Plymouth, Sept. 28, 1825; died in Boston, Feb. 9, 1887. His theme was "The Man of Letters in Active Life."

² George S. Emerson, born in Boston, August 4, 1825; died there, Dec. 19, 1848.

University, and in the attainments to the acquisition of which this intellectual mother of the youthful mind furnishes to her children the means, and for that exemplary industry and active energy which has traced for the benefit of after times, the history of the University from its origin, and left for his successors an example to emulate in the labors and virtues of all their predecessors, as well as of his own.

Resolved, That a copy of these Resolutions, signed by the Governor of the Commonwealth, as the presiding officer of the Board, be communicated to Mr. Quincy at the close of the performances on the approaching Commencement day.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, *Chairman*.

21 August, 1845.

Attest: JOHN PIERCE, *Secretary*.

The Exercises of the Day.—Performed, salutatory oration, 1; essays, 3; disquisitions, 6; dissertations, 8; English orations, 5 = 23. Assigned, but not performed, essays, 4; dissertations, 3; disquisition, 1; Latin oration, 1; English oration, 1 = 10. Total, 33.

After the exercises of the day I went by invitation to Prof. Beck's, whose son, Phillips, took his degree of A.B. this day. The company was large and the entertainment sumptuous. There was abundance of wine for such as desired it, administered by black servants. There was a continual accession and departure of guests from the fashionable circles of Boston and vicinity. The rain, which fell in torrents, which would have been a good excuse for non-attendance on public worship, was no obstacle to a full house on such a convivial occasion.

Of the class of 1802, 10 were present. But of the class of 1820, a quarter of a century since graduation, 25 were gathered together; and they went in a body to pay respects to their old tutor, Dr. John S. Popkin, and were kindly received.

Degrees conferred, — A.B., 60; A.M. in course, 12; out of course, 6 = 18; M.D., 19; LL.B., 51; LL.D., Benjamin Merrill, Henry Wheaton, John M. Williams, Rufus Choate; D.D., Rev. George G. Ingersoll, Rev. Henry J. Ripley, Rev. H. Ballou, II.; A.M., Paul John Robinson, 1823, & his name in class; A.M. Hon., George Atkinson Ward, Rev. Edwin Hubbell Chapin, Noble Butler¹ . . .

Living in italics in the Catalogue of H. U. printed in 1845² . . .

Of these, Liberal Congregationalists, 180; Orthodox do., 75; Episcopalians, 43; Baptists, 11; Universalists, 3; Swedenborgians, 2; Methodist, 1; Roman Catholic, 1 = 316.

[1846.]

On Wednesday, 26 Aug., 1846, I attended my LXII. Commencement at Harvard University. The rain which commenced at a little

¹ Here follow the order of exercises for the prize declamations, an account of the anniversary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, and various memoranda and statistics as in previous years.

² Their names are all recorded.

before IX., the previous evening, continued through the day of Commencement.¹

I began to attend Commencement in 1784, when I was eleven years old, and have continued my uninterrupted attendance, except in 1791, when my dear mother was buried.

The following only are alive on the Catalogue in all the classes previous to 1784.² In the 19 previous years but 19 are living, averaging one to each year.

Notwithstanding the copious rain the Governor & suite arrived so that we were ready to start at the usual time, a little before X. We found the meetinghouse well filled.

Dr. Walker offered a singularly appropriate prayer of 5 minutes.

The salutatory oration, by Wm. Ladd Ropes, son of Hardy Ropes, was well written & delivered.

The salutatory orator addressed the Mayor of Cambridge, J. D. Green, for the first time, Cambridge having been incorporated as a city since the last Commencement.

14. The V. English oration, by Augustus Lord Soule,³ of Exeter, N. H., on "Woman in Ancient Rome," was well sustained.

18. An essay, "Henri de la Roche Jaquelin," was well written & performed by Charles Eliot Guild, son of Benj. Guild.

22. A disquisition, "The Character of Prometheus in Ancient & Modern Poetry," by Charles Henry Hudson, of Cambridge. A lively, animated performance, in a style of elocution rather popular than natural.

27. A dissertation, "Santa Croce," by Charles Eliot Norton, son of Professor Norton, was among the best exercises, both for composition & elocution.

30. The II. English oration, "Tamerlane," by George Martin Lane, was well delivered, but did not equal the expectations of some who heard him at a former exhibition & at the inauguration of President Everett.

32. The concluding oration, by Francis James Child, on "The Prospects of Man & the Poetical Justice of Providence," was an uncommon exhibition of talent, composition, & elocution. When the young man ascended the stage he was welcomed with loud & long continued applause, so that it was some time before he could commence. The cheering was also very enthusiastic when he left the stage.

The cheering was almost as hearty when Lane ascended the stage.

Governor Briggs and most of his suite arrived in good season. But

¹ Rain on Com^t days, 1, 1796; 2, 1798; 3, 1835; 4, 1837; 5, 1845; 6, 1846. — *Note by Dr. Pierce.*

² Here follow the names, beginning with Dr. Ezra Green, of the class of 1765.

³ Born in Exeter, N. H., April 19, 1827; died at Sugar Hill, Lisbon, N. H., August 25, 1887.

his Excellency dispensed with the customary escort of the Lancers, a military company in Boston, on account of the rain.

This was the first Commencement on which President Everett presided; and he performed his part with dignity & grace, to admiration.

The Overseers met in Gore Hall, the VI. anniversary. It was the III. anniversary on which no exercises, as was formerly the invariable custom, were assigned to the Masters.

Exercises of the day. Performed, — salutatory ora. Latin, 1; essays, 5; dissertations, 8; disquisitions, 4; Greek oration, 1; English orations, 6 = 25. Assigned, but not performed, — essays, 3; interme. Lat. ora., 1; disquisitions, 3 = 7. Total assigned, 32.

After the several parts were performed, the President took the Old Chair, and with his academic cap gave the degrees in the usual form. A.B., in course, 61; do. out of course, 1; A.M., in course, 29; do. out of course, 6; M.D., 48; LL.B., 56. A.M. Hon., Nathaniel Barker, Col. John M. Fessenden, Rev. James Means; LL.D., Benjamin Rand, Hon. Wm. Campbell Preston, Hon. Henry Black, Hon. Thomas Grenville; D.D., Rev. Alexander Young, Rev. Leonard Woods, Jr.

At the close of the exercises the usual invitations to dinner were given; and all who were to dine went without order to the Library, where a procession was formed, and we repaired to Harvard Hall for dinner.

I was the oldest clergyman present, and according to former usages it would have fallen to me to ask the blessing. But this service I performed in 1843, when I was 70 years of age. I then resolved that I would ever in future decline the service, in favor of the principle of rotation. Dr. Codman, of 1802, being the next in age present, asked the blessing in a becoming manner.

For what next followed I subjoin an extract from the next day's "Mercantile Journal."

"At the close of the repast the company joined, as usual, in singing the LXXVIII. Psalm, to the tune of St. Martin's, which was led off by the venerable Dr. Pierce, of Brookline, with his fine, clear, & sonorous voice. This psalm has always been sung, so far as any one now knows, at the annual Commencement Dinners, & this is the 44th year that printed copies of it have been distributed, one to each person at the tables.

"After the singing of the psalm, President Everett, remarking that it was not the custom upon this occasion to occupy time with toasts & speeches, said that he would so far trespass upon the usual course as to give the memory of one individual who ought never to be forgotten there, the immortal Founder of the College. In this connection he spoke very pleasantly & feelingly of his researches in England for anything which might throw light upon the family or name of John Harvard. Until upon the eve of his return to this country, he had not been able to find any trace of the name or family, except in the Register of Harvard's own membership at the College where he was educated. But in passing through a narrow street in the city of London, just before his departure from it, his attention was arrested by a small sign, bearing the name & calling of

'John Harvard, lampmaker.' On this circumstance Mr. Everett dwelt in a half serious strain. The family, if it was that of one John Harvard, had, although reduced, adhered to a congenial & fitting trade; & if they could no longer found institutions for the spread of spiritual light, they were yet determined to afford material light to their fellowmen. It had reminded him of an injunction which the graduates of Harvard might well adopt as a motto (in default of Greek type, our readers must put up with a translation), 'Let those who have lamps share their light with their neighbors.'

"Mr. Everett closed his brief remarks by giving as a toast, the memory of John Harvard, at which the whole company arose, & the company soon after dispersed.

"The entertainment was conducted on the plan of total abstinence from all drinkables except water & lemonade. (The first of the kind, it is believed.)"

I began to set the tune 17 July, 1793, when I took my degree. It was the custom to deacon the lines, as it is called, till the Commencement of 1803, when the psalm was printed & put under each plate. I have set the psalm ever since, except when I did not dine in the hall, but with some private company. It was this year the 34th time in which I have officiated in that capacity, so that reckoning the 53 years in which I have sustained the office of Commencement chorister, it is more than one quarter of the period from the first Commencement of the College. This was the XIIth anniversary on which the psalm took the place of the thanks formerly rendered.

After dinner in the hall, I went by invitation to Professor Norton's, where he & his brother-in-law Guild, who had each a son graduated this day, with honor, had made large & elegant provision for numerous guests. But the rain prevented. Their notes were dated "Shady Hill." I remarked to Neighbor Guild, that in such a storm every hill will be shady.

After this call, which I made in the company and in the carriage of the Governor, he carried me to pay our respects to President Everett. We found callers passing into his house in quick succession. A fine band of instrumental music were in his yard discoursing sweet music. I arrived home about sunset.

In going from Mrs. Hedge's to the Colleges this morning, in my chaise, I met Professor Popkin, my long tried friend. I halted in my chaise to salute him. Instead of responding to my civility, he abruptly said, "I cannot stop to speak to you; for I must go to my family." By this intimation I understood that he was hastening home to his family devotions. Poor man, I fear that he is but little removed from insanity, of which complaint his mother died.¹ . . .

¹ The order of exercises for the declamations, the account of the anniversary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, and some statistical and personal memoranda here follow.

The life and character of Dr. Popkin are well delineated in "A Memorial of the Rev. John Snelling Popkin, D.D., late Eliot Professor of Greek Literature in

Alive on the Catalogue before me, 87; dead on the Catalogue before me, 789.

First class in which a majority are living, 1805. Last class in which a majority are dead, 1807. Last class in which all are dead, 1780. Only classes in which all are alive, 1844, 1845, 1846.

At this Commencement there are 317 names in italics of those who are living.

Of these there are Liberal Cong^{ts} 103 in of. 68 out of of. = 171

Orthodox	32	"	34	"	= 66
Episcopalians	31	"	9	"	= 40
Baptists	6	"	4	"	= 10
Universalists	3	"	0	"	= 3
Swedenborgians	2	"	0	"	= 2
Methodist	1	"	0	"	= 1
Roman Catholic	1	"	0	"	= 1

Laid by, as broken vessels, between $\frac{1}{8}$ & $\frac{1}{4}$ part.¹

[1847.]

On Wednesday, 25 August, 1847, I attended my LXIII. Commencement at H. U. The day was cool; the roads dusty; no rain having fallen for 7 days. The neighborhood, however, of the Colleges was throughout the day sprinkled by the Dearborn watering machine.

The Governor escorted by the Lancers, a horse company from Boston, arrived in such season that the preliminary business was transacted so as to enable the procession to arrive at the meetinghouse precisely at X.

Dr. Walker, of the Corporation, opened the occasion with a short and appropriate prayer.

The salutatory Latin oration, by Lowe,² was finely written and spoken, 1; essays performed, 3; not performed, 3 = 6; disquisitions performed, 4; not performed, 4 = 8; dissertations, all performed, 11; an English poem, 1; English orations, 5 = 32.

The poem was highly applauded, delivered by the second scholar in the class, Felton.³

Harvard University. Edited by Cornelius C. Felton, his Successor in Office." Cambridge: Published by John Bartlett, 1852. 12mo. pp. lxxxvii and 392.

¹ Here follow 58 names.

² Rev. Charles Lowe, born in Portsmouth, N. H., Nov. 19, 1828; died in Swampscott, June 20, 1874.

³ John B. Felton, born in Boston, June 9, 1827; died in Oakland, Cal., May 2, 1877. His poem was entitled "The Hours."

The concluding oration, by Marsters,¹ was a masterly performance. The next best speakers were Tiffany² and Savage.³

The exercises, as a whole, were respectable. But a single speaker hesitated in the delivery, and he, Jennison,⁴ soon recovered his recollection.

The Overseers met in Gore Hall, the VII. anniversary. It was the IV. on which no candidates for the Master's degree took part in the public exercises, as was the case in former times.

Admitted to the degree of A.B., 60; A.M., in course, 12; A.M., out of course, 3; LL.B., 47; M.D., 48. Degree of *A.M.* Honorary on Evangelinus A. Sophocles, Prof. Eben Norton Horsford, Royall Tyler, Rev. Frederic T. Gray, 4; *LL.D.*, Dr. Henry Holland, of London, Prof. Wm. Kent, Judge Peleg Sprague, Prof. E. T. Channing, Hon. John Banister Gibson, Hon. John Taylor Lomax, Hon. Timothy Farrar, the oldest living graduate, H. U. 1767, 7; *D.D.*, Pres. Woolsey, Y. C., Rev. Samuel Barrett, Rev. Emerson Davis, Rev. William Henry Furness, 4.

After the exercises we repaired without order to the Gore Library. Thence we went in procession to Harvard Hall to dine. President Hopkins, of Williams College, asked the blessing. Instead of thanks, as in olden times, the singing of LXXVIII. Psalm to St. Martin's was substituted, for XIII. anniversary. I set the psalm, as is my wont.

After dinner I went by invitation to the room of Joseph Peabody Gardner, a graduate of the day, son of John Lowell Gardner, whose summer residence is in Brookline.

Early in the evening I waited upon my daughter Hedge to President Everett's levee, where we were introduced to several strangers, and partook the generous hospitality of the house. The band of music, in attendance, played at my solicitation Tivoli, Marseillais Hymn, & Auld Lang Syne.

President Everett, after dinner, read an account of some plate, written by the Librarian, given by a relative, in the early period of the University. At the same time he apologized for not having speeches, for want of time. . . .

Alive on the Catalogue before me, 72. Dead after me, 837. First class in which a majority are alive, 1805. Last class in which a majority are dead, 1807. Last class in which all are dead, 1780. Only classes in which all are alive, 1846, 1847.⁵ . . .

¹ Rev. John M. Marsters. His theme was "Conservatism in a Republic."

² Rev. Francis Tiffany. His Commencement part was an oration on "The Coronation of Petrarch."

³ James W. Savage. He had an oration entitled "The Reviewer."

⁴ James Jennison, born in Southbridge, August 21, 1821; died in Cambridge, Oct. 19, 1876. He had a dissertation on "Society and the Individual."

⁵ On the day after Commencement, Dr. Pierce, as usual, attended the anniversary celebration and dinner of the Phi Beta Kappa Society. On this occasion he

[1848.]

On Wednesday, 23 August, 1848, I attended my LXIV. Commencement, H. U.

The day was so cool that thick clothing was comfortable. The roads had become dry, but those in the vicinity of the University were moistened by artificial means.

My attendance on Cambridge Commencements from the first, in 1784, to the present time has been uninterrupted, except in 1791, when my beloved mother was buried.

There are but 14 graduates of Harvard University living, according to the Triennial Catalogue published this year, whose Commencements I did not attend.¹ . . .

The Governor & suite arrived in season for the procession to reach the meetinghouse within a few minutes of X.

The salutatory oration, by Chase,² the second scholar in the class, was everything which could be desired.

The number of exercises on the order was 29, all but 3 of which were performed.

The omissions were an essay, a disquisition, and a Greek oration.

The exercises performed were 9 disquisitions; 8 dissertations; 1 essay; 1 Latin poem; and 6 English orations, besides the salutatory.

The performances in general were respectable; some of a high order; all spoke sufficiently loud; and not one hesitated or had to recur to his notes.

The valedictory orator was, by common consent, considered the first scholar in his class. But in elocution he was greatly exceeded by Edward James Young, son of Dr. Alexander Young, on "The Reciprocal Influence of the Old World and the New."

writes in his journal: "After dinner, Mr. Parsons, as presiding officer, made an introductory speech, in which he spoke of himself as an old man. I started up and remarked that I objected to the sentiment that he was an old man, as some at my end of the table were settled in life before he was born. Mr. Parsons replied by some pleasant personalities. He spoke of meeting Dr. Harris and myself on a certain occasion, when the Dr. gave me some valuable information. After my departure, Dr. Harris spoke to Mr. Parsons, in words to this effect. 'Now Brother Pierce will go home and make a particular record of what he has heard from me. In short,' continued the Dr., 'he will leave "the recording angel" but little or nothing to record.' This brought up another speaker, who stated that, in company with Judge Davis, I was once asked where a certain person was born. To which I replied, I knew not. 'Then,' said Judge Davis, 'I don't believe that he was born anywhere.' In short, the whole meeting was one of perpetual jest, repartee, and good humor, sufficient to give evidence that wine is by no means necessary to a social gathering."

¹ Dr. Pierce here gives their names, beginning with Judge Farrar, 1767.

² Thomas Chase.

This was the Vth anniversary in succession on which there were no Master's exercises, VIII. anniversary in Gore Hall.¹ . . .

After the exercises in the church, which lasted till about III, the graduates went, without a procession, to the Library. A procession was then formed, and we proceeded in order to the hall. Dr. Alonzo Church was assigned by the President to my care. He is a native of Brattleborough, a graduate at Middlebury College, Vt., 1816, and has been for more than 30 years connected with the College at Athens, in Georgia, of which he has been President for more than 17 years. Agreeably to previous arrangement, he asked the blessing. Instead of thanks as formerly, the singing of the LXXVIII. Psalm, to St. Martin's, was substituted for the XIV. anniversary.

Degrees conferred. A.B., in course, 57; do. of 1846, 1; A.M., in course, 12; out of course, 4; LL.B., 32; M.D., 30. A.M., Bernard Roelker; A.M. Honorary, Edwin P. Whipple, Lorenzo Sabine, Rev. Charles Edward Leverett, 3; D.D., Rev. George O'Kill Stuart, Rev. Wm. B. Sprague, Joseph Allen, Edward Brooks Hall; LL.D., Henry Hallam, Eng., Hon. Joel Parker, Hon. Theron Metcalf, Chancellor Walworth, Prof. Louis Agassiz.

I prefaced my setting the psalm with the remark that as time had not yet beaten me, I should beat time once more, as this practice enables a large company the better to keep time. It was remarked by some good judges that St. Martin's never went better on a Commencement occasion.

After dinner I went to Judge Fay's, to meet the fragment of the class of 1798, of which I was formerly their particular tutor. I had been invited with other surviving tutors to meet such as should assemble to keep their Jubilee.

The class originally consisted of 48. Thirty have gone the way of all the earth. Eighteen remain among the living; and it is not a little remarkable that of these 15 were assembled on this joyous, yet solemn occasion, namely: 1. John Abbot, Westford; 2. Rev. Thomas Beede; 3. Thomas Cole, Salem; 4. Andrew Croswell; 5. Humphrey Devereux, Salem; 6. S. P. P. Fay, Cambridge; 7. Isaac Fiske, Weston; 8. Ralph Hill French; 9. Rev. Jona. French, Northampton, N. H.; 10. Henry Gardner, Dorchester; 11. Nathaniel Lord, Ipswich; 12. Rev. Abraham Randall, Stow; 13. Hon. Richard Sullivan, Boston; 14. Dr. Robert Thaxter, Dorchester; 15. Hon. Sidney Willard, Mayor of Cambridge.

The other surviving members of the class are Dr. Matthias Spalding, who fully intended to meet his class, but was prevented by indisposition; Hon. Stephen Longfellow, of Portland, whose feeble state of health absolutely forbade him to make the attempt; and William Williams,

¹ Here follow the memoranda about Dr. Pierce's seniors and contemporaries.

who at Commencement had the second honor, but from whom no tidings were received.

Dr. Popkin and myself were present, by invitation, as their former tutors.

Judge Fay had spread his table with the choicest fruits of the season, and, I suppose, the most celebrated wines. Some of his class joined him in quaffing wine. On my refusal to take it, he reminded me of Paul's language to Timothy, "Drink a little wine for thy stomach sake"; but I at once replied that the reason on which that direction was founded did not apply to me, for I was not subject to "often infirmities." So easy is it to quote and pervert Scripture in defence of a beloved indulgence.

While at the table dwelling upon our reminiscences, we sang the following hymn, to Hebron:—

HYMN

FOR THE MEETING OF THE CLASS OF 1798, AT CAMBRIDGE, ON THEIR L.
ANNIVERSARY, 1848. BY NATHANIEL LORD, ONE OF THE CLASS.

Eternal One, before whose sight
A thousand years are as the day,
And as a watch of the silent night,
Ages on ages roll away.

Before thy throne we humbly bow,
Thou ever good, thou ever just!
Thy being, one eternal Now;
Our frail foundation is the dust.

But yesterday, our cheerful band
In blithesome morn this classic ground
Perambulated, hand in hand,
While mirth and joy and hope went round.

Our daily task we here pursued;
Here we enjoyed our nightly rest;
Nor the world's toils could here intrude,
Nor cares disturb the youthful breast.

But those bright scenes have passed away;
Fifty short years have run their rounds;
Now we return, to take survey
Once more of these time-hallowed grounds.

But what a change! Death's ruthless hand
Has laid our loved companions low;
And the small remnant of our band
How small! How soon we all must go!

Our teachers honored and beloved
Who still remain, we welcome here,
Rejoiced to be by them approved,
As erst we used their frown to fear.

When the great Master calls our band
To enter other worlds than this,
May we partake at his right hand
Of "perfect, ever growing bliss."¹

And may our Alma Mater dear
Till time shall cease so train our youth,
As to send forth from year to year
Her children valiant for the truth.

A large and elegant bouquet, in the form of a pyramid, was privately conveyed to Judge Fay's house, with poetry, afterwards ascertained to proceed from the wife of Nathaniel Silsbee, Jr., and daughter of Mr. Humphrey Devereux.

TO THE CLASS OF 1798, AT HON. S. P. P. FAY'S, CAMBRIDGE.

Just fifty years ago, good friends, a young and gallant band
Were dancing round the farewell tree, each hand in comrade's hand,
And hearts beat high, and eyes shone bright, till smiles were chased by
tears,
And we parted from our classmates dear, for life, or for long years.

The world was all a vision fair; its trials and its strife
Had never sent its echoes to our calm, scholastic life,
And if we knew that clouds must come to turn our day to night
The bow of hope was still our own to make the darkness bright.

And so we left the pleasant shades of Harvard's classic bowers,
Where we had passed, in toil and sport, so many happy hours;
And the man returning to the home from which he went a boy
Began to weave life's mingled web of sorrow and of joy.

And sure am I, that none forget, though many a year has fled,
How proudly to our well earned homes our blushing wives we led;
And we remember well how our hearts grew larger year by year
To hold within their inmost depths our little children dear.

Then as our boys and girls grew up to man and womanhood
How earnestly we prayed that God would keep them true and good;
And when his hand has plucked our flowers, to bloom above with him,
We still could praise his name, although our eyes with tears were dim.

Year after year our ranks were thinned, our brightest and our best
Have left this world of ours to seek the mansions of the blest;
But in their upward flight they spread "a trailing cloud of glory"
O'er the class that boasts a Tuckerman, a Channing, and a Story.

¹ "See Professor Tappan's lecture to the class, in 1798, on their leaving college."

A stalworth band around we stand ; and though among the dead
The sapling and the leafy tree have bowed the stately head ;
Yet the " brave old oaks " have weathered out full many wintry storms,
And still through shade and sunshine they rear their sturdy forms.

With heart on lip we 'll pledge to all in memory enshrined,
And wreath the honored heads of those who trained each youthful mind ;
And when another fifty years are numbered with the past,
When all who meet together here have looked on earth their last,
May the great boon of Christian men to one and all be given,
A band of brothers here below, O may we love in heaven.

The foregoing lines were accompanied by a beautiful pyramid of flowers tastefully arranged, which decorated the centre of a table spread with the choicest fruits, & sparkling with cotemporary wine ruin ; being the anniversaries of the class, at the hospitable mansion of the Hon. S. P. P. Fay. Whence the flowers & the note came no one knew ; & it was concluded y^t y^e guardian spirit of y^e occasion had dropped y^m there in this mysterious manner wth an accidental circumstance betrayed y^e secret of this tribute of filial piety & affection by a daughter of y^e class of 1798, who was thereon unanimously voted an honorary member of y^e class.

Before me in italics alive, 0 alone ; 2 have colleagues ; 0 preach ; 11 left preaching. 13 in italics, alive before me ; 44, not in italics ; 57, total. Dr. Popkin, the oldest in italics who was out at Commencement.

First class in which a majority are alive, 1806. Last class in which a majority are dead, 1807. Last class in which all are dead, 1780. Only class in which all are alive, 1848. In classes after 1767, all dead, 1768, 1769, 1770, 1771, 1772, 1773, 1774, 1775, 1778, 1779, 1780.

After passing a short time very pleasantly with the fragment of the class of 1798 I went to Mrs. Everett's levee, where I found a large collection, though not so large as I saw the week before at President Woolsey's, New Haven.¹

Comparative Expenses of three Graduates of Harvard University.

[December, 1838.]

I will here record as a matter of curiosity the expenses for a college education at Cambridge incurred by my maternal uncle, James Blake, who entered Harvard University, July, 1765, & was graduated July, 1769 ;

¹ This was the last Commencement which Dr. Pierce attended. He died on the 24th of August, 1849, a few weeks after the Commencement of that year, which he was too feeble to attend.

Next, John Pierce's (my own), who entered July, 1789, and was graduated July, 1793; and

Thirdly, John Tappan Pierce's (my son), who entered August, 1827, and was graduated August, 1831.

Freshman Year.

Mr. James Blake to Jona. Hastings, College Steward, Dr.

	£	s.	d.	q.
To the I Quarter bill from 14 June to 13 Sep., 1765 .	1.	8.	11.	2
To commons & sizings from 13 Sep. to 8 Nov., 1765 .	1.	19.	1.	0
	3.	8.	0.	2
Aug. 21, 1765, Credit	1.	4.		
	2.	4.	0.	2
To the II Quarter bill from 13 Sep. to 13 Dec., 1765 .	1.	17.	6	
	4.	1.	6.	2
To the III Quarter bill from 13 Dec. to 14 Mar., 1766	3.	14.	10	
To the IV Quarter bill from 14 Mar. to 13 June, 1766				
Punished for not reciting 1/	5.	6.	2.	2
	9.	11.	0.	2
4 July, 1766, rec'd by Exhibition money	6.	14.	8	
	2.	16.	4.	2

Sophomore Year.

Mr. James Blake to Jona. Hastings, College Steward, Dr.

	£	s.	d.	q.
To the I Quarter bill from 13 June to 12 Sep., 1766 .	3.	19.	6.	2
To the II Quarter bill from 12 Sep. to 12 Dec., 1766 .	5.	2.	2.	2
	9.	1.	9.	0
To the III Quarter bill from 12 Dec. to 13 Mar., 1767	4.	2.	6.	1
To the IV Quarter bill from 13 Mar. to 12 June, 1767	5.	0.	7.	2
	9.	3.	1.	3
9 July, 1767 { Rec'd by Exhibition money 6.14.8				
{ Rec'd by your being Monitor 3				
	9.	14.	8	
	11.	6.	1	

s. d. q.

You see there is 11. 6. 1 due to you.

Junior Year.

Mr. James Blake to Jona. Hastings, College Steward, Dr.

	£	s.	d.	q.
Your account rendered to 11 Sep. 1767	13.	15.	2.	2
To the II Quarter bill from 11 Sep. to 11 Dec., 1767	5.	14.	0.	1
	19.	9.	2.	3
Credit	9.	14.	8	
	9.	14.	6.	3
Your account rendered to 11 Mar., 1768	4.	8.	1.	2
To the IV Quarter bill from 10 Mar. to 10 June, 1768				
Punished, absence from prayers / 2, not reciting 1 /	5.	3.	0.	1
	9.	11.	1.	3
4 July, 1768, Rec'd by Exhibition	6.	14.	8	
	2.	16.	5.	3

Senior Year.

	£	s.	d.	q.
Your account rendered to 9 Sep., 1768	4.	11.	2.	1
To II Quarter bill from 9 Sep. to 9 Dec., 1768 . . .	5.	11.	1.	2
	10.	2.	3.	3
Punished { Absence from prayers / 2, by Mr. Wigglesw./4 { Absence from College one night 1 / 6				
24 December, Credit by Mr. Eliot's order	0.	0.	9.	3
	10.	1.	6.	0
	£	s.	d.	q.
Account rendered to 10 March, 1769	4.	8.	3.	3
To IV Quarter bill from 10 Mar. to 9 June, 1769 . .	5.	9.	1	
Punished, absence from prayer / 2				
To Commons & sizings from 10 June to 30 June, 1769	1.	2.	5	
Toward the Commencement dinner	0.	18.	0	
	11.	17.	9.	3
Credit	6.	14.	8	
	5.	3.	1.	3

Summary of James Blake's Bills.

	Bills.	Credit.
	\$ c. m.	\$ c. m.
Freshman year . . .	47.09.7	26.44.5
Sophomore year . . .	60.81.6	32.44.
Junior year . . .	96.72.9	54.88.9
Senior year . . .	73.35.4	23.98.6
Total, Bills . . .	277.99.6	137.76.0
Total, Credit . . .	137.76.0	
Had to pay, only . .	140.23.6	

It has always appeared unaccountable to me, how my father managed to pay the small sum required, as he was a shoemaker with ten

children. It affords a striking proof of what may be accomplished by industry, economy, and temperance, with the blessing of Almighty God!

John Tappan Pierce's College Bills.

		\$	c.
Freshman year,	First Term bill, 19 Dec., 1827	69	23
	Second Term bill, 20 Mar., 1828	64	30
	Third Term bill, 16 July, 1828	55	40
	Spending money	11	22
	Expenses of the Freshman year =	200	15
Sophomore year,	First Term bill, 24 Dec., 1828	68	15
	Second Term bill, 31 Mar., 1829	59	15
	Third Term bill, 14 July, 1829	54	35
		181	65
	Spending money	24	25
	Expenses of the Sophomore year =	205	90
Junior year,	First Term Bill, 23 Dec., 1829	61	20
	Second Term bill, 7 Apr., 1830	57	65
	Third Term bill, 14 July, 1831	55	42
	Spending money	12	50
	Expenses of the Junior year =	186	77
Senior year,	First Term bill, 22 Dec., 1830	70	07
	Second Term bill, 6 Apr., 1831	53	96
	Third Term bill	58	63
	Spending money	32	64
	Expenses of the Senior year =	215	30

Summary.

	\$	c.		\$	c.	Total.
Freshman year Term bills	188	93	+	Spending money	11.22	= 200.15
Sophomore	181	65	+		24.25	= 205.90
Junior	174	27	+		12.50	= 186.77
Senior	182	66	+		32.64	= 215.30
	727	51			80.61	= 808.12

General Summary.

Com.	Total of Bills. \$ c. m.	Total of Credit. \$ c. m.
James Blake, 1769,	277.09.7	137.76.0
John Pierce, 1793,	291.34.7	102.56.6
John T. Pierce, 1831,	727.00.0	

I never asked nor received a single cent of pecuniary favor for my son, of the Government of Harvard University, though I had a large family, and my salary, besides wood and rent of my house and lands, never amounted to more than \$850 \textdollar annum.¹

MR. WILLIAM S. APPLETON said:—

During my absence of three years in Europe I twice passed many days at the principal registry of probate in London, known as Doctors' Commons, working by the side of Mr. Waters. I wish of course not to interfere with the Genealogical Gleanings now in course of publication under his name, but I read several wills of such curious personal interest that I have decided to communicate some of them to the Society.

Mr. Savage says, in his "Genealogical Dictionary of New England," under the name AMBROSE, "JOSHUA, of wh. we gladly would kn. the f. and date of b.," "NEHEMIAH, of unkn. parentage." Both these men were graduates of Harvard in the class of 1653, but Mr. Sibley knew no more of their parentage than did Mr. Savage; and I wish they were alive to know that Peter Ambrose, of Toxteth, Lancashire, in his will, 1653, named his sons Joshua and Nehemiah, and as if to leave no possible doubt also mentioned New England.

Mr. Nathaniel I. Bowditch, as all remember, dedicated his volume, "Suffolk Surnames," "to the memory of A. Shurt, 'the father of American conveyancing,' whose name is associated alike with my daily toilet and my daily occupation." I think he would have been pleased to know that George Shurt, of Bideford, in his will, 1655, mentioned his brother "Abraham Shurt now in newe England," and particularly desired him to return to England and receive the property, as I believe it is quite possible he did.

Lion Gardener, in a letter in the Winthrop Papers (4th series, vol. vii.), mentions Kempo Sybada, a sea-captain, of whom the editors say something in a short note. He is not famous,

¹ Notwithstanding the care with which Dr. Pierce made up these comparative statements, there are two or three trifling mistakes in the items, which do not, however, affect the General Summary. An examination of the Steward's books, in the University Library, shows that James Blake's bill for the fourth quarter of his Freshman Year amounted to £5 . 16 . 2 . 2; and that John Pierce's bill for the third quarter of his Junior Year was £4 . 7. The aggregate of John T. Pierce's bills in the General Summary is not exact.

but I found his will of 1659. He called himself of London, mariner, and devised his "Lands houses and plantations in Affrica (To witt in New England and Jameco)," and named his friend Capt. John Wentworth, of "Barmodaes." So far as I know, the first mention of New England in a will is that of Thomas Marshall, of London, who in 1625 left to his father John "all my right title and benefitt whatsoever which I have for fishinge or other wise in Plymouth in New England."

In my "Ancestry of Priscilla Baker," printed in 1870, I was only able to conjecture that Elizabeth, wife of Edmund Reade, of Wickford in Essex, afterwards also of the Rev. Hugh Peter, might have been daughter of Thomas Cooke, of Pebmarsh in Essex. I am glad to be able to say that I was right. This Thomas Cooke in his will, 1621, named his son-in-law Edmund Reade with wife Elisabeth, and his grandchildren Samuel Reade, Margaret wife of John Lake, and Martha Reade now wife of — Epps, of London. This last afterwards married Deputy-Governor Samuel Symonds.

Katherine Oxenbridge, a widow lady, in her will, 1651, used the words, "I give to the Plantation of New England Tenne poundes for to buy bookes for the Indians to Learne to read." I think this bequest can hardly have been carried out, for indefiniteness; but if the money were used as intended, the poor lady would certainly be grieved to know with how little result. Most interesting is a bequest in the wills of Anthony Abdy, Citizen and Alderman of London, 1640, and of his sons Roger, 1641, and Nicholas, 1642. All three used the identical clause: £120 "to be disposed and bestowed by my Executors upon twenty poore Boyes and Girles to be taken up out of the streets of London as vagrants for the Cloathing and transporting of them either to Virginia New England or any other of the Western Plantations there to be placed." I am by no means able to say that nothing came of these bequests; but I have found no trace of them on this side of the ocean, and do not know whether Puritans or Cavaliers are descended from these "poore Boyes and Girles," vagrants from the streets of London.

Mr. Henry F. Waters was chosen a Resident Member.

The Hon. MELLEŃ CHAMBERLAIN, on being called on by the President, spoke of the meeting of the American Historical

Association recently held in Washington, where there was a large attendance of historical scholars from all parts of the country, and continued substantially as follows :—

Within the last decade there has grown up among us a new school of history which has its principal seats at the higher universities. It is now so well known by its leading characteristics that a minute description of it would seem like pretending to a new discovery. Its promise is high, and even thus early its work is more than respectable as that of young men mainly of scholastic training, unacquainted with affairs, and without opportunities for observing how the elementary facts which make history are colored and even transformed in legislative assemblies, by judicial decisions, and in the tumultuous proceedings of the crowd. Gibbon has recorded that his captainship in the Hampshire grenadiers had not been useless to the historian of the Roman Empire ; and every one knows how much the historical insight of Clarendon, Hume, and Macaulay was quickened, and how much their narratives gain in closeness and verisimilitude by their participation in government, diplomacy, and parliamentary affairs. And so will it be with the new school of American historians. Years and experience will add greatly to the value of their future work.

Their methods are the comparative of Bopp, and the critical of the later scientists ; and these are something more than new names for old processes. Hutchinson, Belknap, Trumbull, and Ramsay were diligent seekers and close observers. They did good work ; of its kind none better has been since done. But their field of observation was no wider than the subject in hand, of which they gave the facts very exactly, but not their relative values ; nor were they curious about remote causes, or the origin of institutions.

The new methods have produced surprising results in history as well as in science. The historian of the new school, distrusting second-hand authorities, resorts to original documents ; and if these are legal, as is more than likely to be the case in American history, since our English colonies were based on legal instruments, and their constitutional history is mainly found in the legal interpretation of those instruments, he acquaints himself with the rules of interpreting

such documents. The neglect of this obvious duty has often led to deplorable mistakes. At the same time he considers how often, and how justly, legal arguments and conclusions are overruled by considerations of public policy. This is especially necessary in the history of the period just before the Revolutionary War, when the weight of purely legal argument was mostly on one side, and on the other a weightier colonial policy. Deeper than legal principles, deeper even than questions of public policy, and more potent, were the instincts and traditions of the race, voiced as they often were by wild cries of the mob unthinking and sometimes cruel, but generally right in their main purpose. It was by his recognition of these, and by his appeal to them, that Pitt, with vague notions of constitutional law and sometimes mistaken in his views of public policy, made his first administration the most glorious in British annals; and Macaulay, gathering their varied expressions from recondite sources, added to his narrative much which will be more valued than its brilliancy and picturesqueness.

The methods of the new school are adapted to their subjects of research; and these, judiciously chosen as yet, are those which require neither a large canvas nor imaginative treatment, but rather, patient investigation and thoughtfulness,—such as the origin and growth of local institutions, municipal governments, constitutions, and social science. Nor is this history of our institutions limited to their beginnings and growth on American soil, but the inquiry is pushed into the remote *habitats* and ages of our Anglo-Saxon race.

Nothing could be better than this, though not without its perils in treatment. In a large view the human race is one; its thoughts, desires, necessities, and modes of action are similar; and so, to that extent, is its essential history. But such generalizations are more safely used by the anthropologist than by the historian. Nevertheless, there is a certain fascination in tracing the unity of history. It pleases the reader not less than the historian. There are few more effective paragraphs in any history than those in which Guizot affirms that “neither the English revolution nor the French revolution ever said, wished, or did anything that had not been said, wished, done, or attempted a hundred times before they burst forth; . . . and that nothing will be found of

which the invention originated with them, nothing which is not equally met with, or which, at all events, did not come into existence in periods which are called regular.”¹

I have spoken of this school as new, — new in its methods and new in its purposes; and so, doubtless, it is in this country, but not in Europe. Its prototype is to be found there, and there its most distinguished master, Dr. Edward A. Freeman. His view of our history may be gathered from a paragraph in which he says that “the early institutions of Massachusetts are part of the general institutions of the English people, as those are again part of the general institutions of the Teutonic race, and those are again part of the general institutions of the whole Aryan family.” And there he says he stops; but he adds that his friends do him no wrong who make such institutions common to all mankind.²

The new American school inclines to go no farther than Freeman goes. But there is danger even in this. It is frequently said that our emigrant ancestors brought British institutions to Massachusetts; and with this notion we seek in English towns the prototypes of our own, and so back to those communities in the German forests vaguely described by Tacitus and Cæsar. I think there are reasons for caution in accepting the conclusions of some of our recent historical writers based on the theory of Dr. Freeman.

Analogies do not constitute identities. Instincts are not institutions; nor does similarity of design, or adaptation of institutions, indicate heredity, or even relationship. When Englishmen sought new homes on American soil, they doubtless came with the purpose of organizing society and government; but they would have done so without such antecedent purpose. With forethought they brought many things. But there is no evidence that they brought institutions, or had even meditated the form which they would give them. They certainly brought with them the instincts, traditions, and habits of their race, and these determined their action in unwonted situations and gave shape to their institutions. We know with some exactness what they brought with them. We have the lading of the ships in which they came. Besides themselves, their wives, their children and servants,

¹ English Revolution, preface.

² Introduction to American Institutional History, p. 13.

they brought clergymen, physicians, surveyors, mechanics, with food to serve until the soil should yield it. They brought clothing, furniture, tools, utensils, weapons offensive and defensive, and animals. They brought "Ministers, Men skilfull in making of pitch, of salt, vine Planters, Patent Under Seal, a Seal, wheat, rye, barley, oats, a head of each in the ear, beans, peas, stones of all sorts of fruits, as peaches, plums, filberts, cherries, pears, apples, quince kernels, pomegranates, woad seed, saffron heads, liquorice seed, roots sent and madder roots, potatoes, hop roots, hemp seed, flax seed against winter, connys, currant plants, tame turkeys, and madder seed." But we nowhere find mention of Magna Charta, the British Constitution, the Petition of Right, or English institutions. Nor is much said about them in their books, sermons, diaries, or correspondence. But when they needed, they found them directly enough in the traditions and instincts of their race.

While their general purposes were clear, there is no evidence that they had any definite and fixed plans as to their government or institutions. The evidence is all the other way. Their charter, which was the expression and measure of their rights, gave them no power to set up a government save of rules for managing a land company. If they intended to bring an English town with them, as is so often said they did, they were singularly lacking in care; for when they had organized their commonwealth government, and arranged themselves in separate communities for which corporate town powers were necessary, no warrant was found in their charter, and to meet the necessity they were obliged to usurp the power of forming corporations, for which they were afterwards called to account, and greatly to their cost.

So our English ancestors did not bring English towns with them, nor English churches, nor vestries, nor British institutions. But on occasion they builded for themselves, as Englishmen always and everywhere had done and still do, according to the exigencies of their situation, and after the manner of their race, just as the seeds they brought with them produced, each after its kind, but modified by differences of soil, climate, and situation. And so doubtless was it with their ancestors, and ours, who came from the forests of Germany to

England; but it is questionable whether they brought German towns into England. We must not be misled by analogies or resemblances, nor assign to nationality what belongs to all races. Wherever people are gathered in stationary communities, their communal wants will be essentially the same, and will be provided for essentially in the same manner. But it is quite probable that a fully organized New England town differed in as many particulars, and as widely, from an English town, as that from a German town, or as that from one in the heart of Africa.

It is not to be inferred, from what has been said, that the new historical school have generally fallen into the mistake indicated, though perhaps there is a tendency to do so.

One of those who adopted the extreme view as to the origin and powers of New England towns was the late Prof. Alexander Johnston. His opinions took shape in a monograph entitled "The Genesis of a New England State," published in 1883, which was substantially incorporated into his history of "Connecticut: A Study of Commonwealth Democracy," published in 1887. On the appearance of this work I read it with interest; but finding some statements and opinions, presently to be referred to, which seemed to me questionable at least, I made memoranda which form the substance of what I am now saying. Professor Johnston possessed many qualifications for writing history. He readily apprehended and swiftly methodized the facts appertaining to his subject, and presented them in an attractive style. His views of the origin and development of our institutions were those of the new school pushed beyond their extreme limits; but his way of handling facts and drawing inferences from them was his own, and, in my judgment, not to be commended.

His views are best set forth in his own words, as follows:—

1. "Connecticut's town system was, by a fortunate concurrence of circumstances, even more independent of outside control than that of Massachusetts; the principle of local government had here a more complete recognition; and in the form in which it has done best service, its beginning was in Connecticut.

2. "The first conscious and deliberate effort on this continent to establish the democratic principle in control of government was the settlement of Connecticut; and her Constitution of 1639, the first

written and democratic constitution on record, was the starting-point for the democratic development which has since gained control of all our Commonwealths, and now makes the essential feature of our commonwealth government.

3. "Democratic institutions enabled the people of Connecticut to maintain throughout their colonial history a form of government so free from crown control that it became really the exemplar of the rights at which all the colonies finally aimed.

4. "Connecticut, being mainly a federation of towns, with neither so much of the centrifugal force as in Rhode Island nor so much of the centripetal force as in other colonies, maintained for a century and a half that union of the democratic and federative ideas which has at last come to mark the whole United States.

5. "The Connecticut delegates, in the Convention of 1787, by another happy concurrence of circumstances, held a position of unusual influence. The frame of their commonwealth government, with its equal representation of towns in one branch, and its general popular representation in the other, had given them a training which enabled them to bend the form of our national Constitution into a corresponding shape; and the peculiar constitution of our Congress, in the different bases of the Senate and House of Representatives, was thus the result of Connecticut's long maintenance of a federative democracy."

The foregoing propositions contain several matters in respect to which I find myself not in accord with Professor Johnston, but I shall advert to two only; and these are, first, his ideas of the origin of Connecticut towns, the functions assigned to them in the formation of that Commonwealth, and their subsequent relation to it; and, secondly, the alleged influence in the Convention of 1787 of the Connecticut system in giving shape to the Constitution of the United States.

Before giving further extracts from Professor Johnston's history, I will notice briefly the circumstances of the settlement of the valley of the Connecticut, detailed more fully by Palfrey.¹

The most considerable emigration to Massachusetts Bay which followed the coming of Winthrop in the summer of 1630 was a party of East England people who landed at Boston, Sept. 4, 1633. Of these the most conspicuous were John Cotton, Thomas Hooker, Samuel Stone, and John Haynes, all of whom, except the last, were clergymen, and all, except the

¹ History of New England, vol. i. pp. 444 *et seq.*

first, were prominent in bringing about, three years later, the exodus to Connecticut, and in setting up a new Commonwealth there in 1639. Hooker and Stone were settled at Newtown, now Cambridge, as pastor and teacher of the church there; and in the summer of 1636 they led many of their congregation, as well as the church, to what is now Hartford, where Haynes joined them the next year. Wareham, the Dorchester clergyman, also carried his church and part of the congregation to Windsor. These churches emigrated as organized bodies, thus creating vacancies in these several towns which were filled by the formation of new churches at Cambridge, under the charge of Shepard, and at Dorchester, under the charge of Richard Mather, the famous progenitor of the more famous Increase and Cotton Mather. But the emigrants from Watertown, Boston, and Roxbury, accompanied by several eminent men, went as groups of people unorganized either as church or community.

Thus, after three years' residence in the Bay, these people went away to Connecticut. Indeed, they had been settled only a few months before they conceived and made known their dissatisfaction with things as they found them, and began to form plans for removal. The reasons they assigned for this desire were as follows:—

1. "Their want of accommodation for their cattle, so as they were not able to maintain their ministers, nor could receive any more of their friends to help them; and here it was alleged by Mr. Hooker, as a fundamental error, that towns were so near to each other.

2. "The fruitfulness and commodiousness of Connecticut, and the danger of having it possessed by others, Dutch or English.

3. "The strong bent of their spirits to remove thither."¹

In the two years before the emigrants led by Hooker had reached Connecticut, a considerable number of people must

¹ Palfrey, *History of New England*, vol. i. p. 445. Dr. Palfrey finds other reasons than those assigned for their desire to remove to Connecticut; and his views are adopted by Charles M. Andrews, Fellow in History, 1889–1890, Johns Hopkins University, in his monograph entitled "The River Towns of Connecticut." It seems to me, however, that much which has not been said may with good reason be said on the other side. Under three heads, Mr. Andrews has admirably treated the Early Settlement, the Land System, and the Towns and the People of Connecticut. Mr. Andrews does not accept Professor Johnston's peculiar theory in respect to the Connecticut towns, and quotes judicial decisions on the subject.

have gathered there; for the General Court, Sept. 3, 1635, ordered "That every town upon the Connecticut shall have liberty to choose their own constable, who shall be sworn by some magistrate of this Court"; and March 4 of the next year appointed a commission to order provisionally for one year the affairs of the people there, and to call a court of the inhabitants to execute the authority granted. When the powers of the Massachusetts commissioners expired, the people of the several towns chose their successors, and held courts until the adoption of a constitution, Jan. 14, 1639. A material fact to be noted is that in all of the proceedings of the General Court of Massachusetts relating to the Connecticut settlers, they are spoken of as "our loving friends, neighbors, freemen, and members of Newtown, Dorchester, Watertown, and other places, who are resolved to transport themselves and their estates unto the River of Connecticut, and there to reside and inhabit." No mention is made of any "migrating towns."

I now return to Professor Johnston's narrative. He says:

"The independence of the town was a political fact which has colored the whole history of the Commonwealth, and, through it, of the United States. Even in Massachusetts, after the real beginning of the government, the town was subordinate to the colony; and though the independence of the churches forced a considerable local freedom there, it was not so fundamental a fact as in Connecticut. Here the three original towns had in the beginning left commonwealth control behind them when they left the parent colony. They had gone into the wilderness, each the only organized political power within its jurisdiction. Since their prototypes, the little *tuns* of the primeval German forest, there had been no such examples of the perfect capacity of the political cell—the 'town'—for self-government. In Connecticut it was the towns that created the Commonwealth; and the consequent federative idea has steadily influenced the colony and State alike. In Connecticut the governing principle, due to the original constitution of things rather than to the policy of the Commonwealth, has been that the town is the residuary legatee of political power; that it is the State which is called upon to make out a clear case for powers to which it lays claim; and that the towns have a *prima facie* case in their favor wherever a doubt arises" (p. 61).

With these extracts before us we can state more succinctly Professor Johnston's theory. He says, though somewhat

vaguely, that towns came from the forests of Germany to England, and from England to Massachusetts Bay; and, more distinctly, that three of them, — Watertown, Newtown, and Dorchester, — as organized towns, migrated to Connecticut, and there, in 1639, set up a commonwealth as the result of their joint corporate action; — that these towns, having created a commonwealth, became the pattern for towns in other commonwealths; and so happily had their system of confederated towns worked, and especially in relation to the commonwealth, that the Connecticut delegation in the Convention of 1787 were able to persuade that body to form the Constitution of the United States on the same basis, — the Senate, with its equal and unalterable representation of sovereign States answering to the independent Connecticut towns; and the House of Representatives, elected by popular vote, answering to the Connecticut Council, elected in the same manner. Professor Johnston says: —

“And this is so like the standard theory of the relations of the States to the federal Government that it is necessary to notice the peculiar exactness with which the relations of Connecticut towns to the commonwealth are proportioned to the relations of the commonwealth to the United States. In other States, power runs from the State upwards and from the State downwards; in Connecticut, the towns have always been to the commonwealth as the commonwealth to the Union. . . . In this respect the life principle of the American Union may be traced straight back to the primitive union of the three little settlements on the bank of the Connecticut River. . . . It is hardly too much to say that the birth of the Constitution [of the United States] was merely the grafting of the Connecticut system on the stock of the confederation, where it has grown into richer luxuriance than Hooker could ever have dreamed of” (pp. 62, 322).

The fallacy of this scheme lies in his theory respecting towns, — their existence independent of some sovereign power.

This leads, then, to an examination of the nature of towns. Three things seem necessary to constitute a town, — territory, population, and corporate existence.

It must have definite territory with a certain permanency of tenure. A military company, a camp-meeting, or a tourist party — frequently more numerous than the inhabitants of

some towns — occupying territory for an indefinite time and, it may be, observing many regulations which govern towns, nevertheless does not constitute a town. Nor does a migratory body of people such as is found in pastoral regions ; for when the inhabitants of a town remove to another locality they do not take their town with them, though no town remains behind. Whether they go to a place within the same jurisdiction, or to one outside of it, in either case on removal their corporate powers revert to the State, and they become a voluntary organization unknown to the law and without rights before it. They are relegated to their natural rights. Again, the inhabitants of a town constitute a legal unit which, for certain purposes at least, absorbs the individuality of all its members. It is a corporation by express creation of the State, or has become such by prescription ; and one of the tests of such a body-corporate is its power to sue, and its liability to be sued, in its corporate name. When, therefore, certain inhabitants of Watertown, Cambridge, and Dorchester migrated to Connecticut, even though they constituted the major part of the inhabitants of those towns, and even though they had carried the town records and other evidences of their corporate existence along with them, which they did not, they went simply as a body of unorganized people voluntarily associated for seeking a new residence. They did not take the towns along with them. After the migration the map showed no vacancies with asterisks referring to the margin, “Gone to Connecticut.” They went, according to the Act authorizing their going, as “divers of our loving friends, neighbors, freemen and members of Newtown, Dorchester, Watertown, and other places” ; and they went under the government of commissioners authorized, not to create towns, but to exercise certain powers of state over them for the space of a year. So little is the foundation for Professor Johnston’s assumption “that three fully organized Massachusetts towns passed out of the jurisdiction of any commonwealth, and proceeded to build up a commonwealth of their own” (p. 12).

But were it possible, and were it true, that the three Massachusetts towns migrated as such, it is neither true nor is it possible that they could have set up a commonwealth, though their people might do so, as they did.

Professor Johnston calls the town the political cell from which the commonwealth was evolved.

But a town can be the germ of nothing but a greater town ; never of a commonwealth. The rights and duties of towns are communal ; and for such rights and duties they may provide ; but even then these powers are delegated, not inherent. The State may, and often does, attend to these matters. But the rights and duties of the State primarily concern sovereignty, external relations, and general laws affecting the inhabitants of all the State. Some of these powers the State, for convenience, may delegate to the inhabitants of towns, such as the election of constables, who are the officers of the State, not of the town, and whose legal relations are to the State, not to the town.

On the other hand, it need not be denied that a town may be something more, and like the Hanse Towns, become qualifiedly independent. But this is not in consequence of the development or extension of communal functions so as to include national functions. It is by taking on new functions. Where these are exercised, it is not because they belong to the town or city in its corporate capacity, but because they are assumed by the people, and their assumption is allowed by neighboring States ; and even then they owe a qualified allegiance to some sovereign, which is inconsistent with the idea of an absolutely independent commonwealth.

If we look at the natural order of towns and commonwealths, it will appear that the latter is first. The primary question of government which concerns every community is that of sovereignty. When this is not denied, the question is in abeyance ; nor does it practically arise where communities, under a previously settled order of relations to the sovereign power, proceed at once to provide for their communal relations.

And so we find that the first act of legislative bodies is to provide for the safety of the body politic, and later, for communal affairs. They first establish the State, and then erect towns. Nor is this order ever reversed. The genesis of the State is not from its parts, — confederated districts, towns, or counties, — but from the sovereign people, who arrange themselves into towns and counties.

The same is true of a confederacy of independent States, whether monarchical or democratic ; for behind the resultant

form of confederation are the people, who assent to the proposed relation.

The genesis of American commonwealths is historically clear. (1) They originated with mere adventurers for fishing, hunting, or trading, who without territorial ownership or by State authority, established themselves on the coast. Among these, though with other views, must be included the Pilgrims driven out of their course by adverse circumstances, as well as the first settlers of Rhode Island and Connecticut. (2) They originated with those who had purchased lands and obtained charters. (3) They were founded under proprietary governments. (4) They were founded as royal governments. In all these cases we find that people first addressed themselves to their foreign relations, and to the perfecting of their autonomy. Neither towns nor town records appear until much later. Nor does it change the order of these relations that the State simultaneously took upon itself the direction of communal as well as of general affairs. The town was not the primordial cell which developed into a State, but the State was the mother of her towns. Development is along the lines of original constitutions, and seldom or never passes over into a different genus.

In accordance with this order, while the three Massachusetts towns of Watertown, Cambridge, and Dorchester, with their records and corporate powers and muniments, remain where they were first settled, it is true that a large number of their inhabitants, between 1634 and 1637, migrated to Connecticut and settled as communities in places now known as Hartford, Windsor, and Wethersfield. They went as unorganized bodies of people, by permission of the Bay Colony, which, for reasons stated in their commission, had assumed jurisdiction over that part of Connecticut, — a fact recognized by the migrating parties. It is further true that these same people, — not in any corporate capacity, for that they lacked, — on the expiration of the Bay Colony commission, chose commissioners for themselves; and in 1639, in the language of their own constitution, "We the Inhabitants and Residents of Windsor, Hartford, and Wethersfield . . . do associate and conform ourselves to be as one Public State or Commonwealth." Such was the genesis of Connecticut. Towns had absolutely nothing to do with it. They did not even exist;

and it was not before 1639 that the unorganized communities which went from the Bay Colony were set up as corporations. Instead of being the creators of the commonwealth they were its offspring. From the commonwealth they derived all of their powers. Nor is their character in any essential respect changed — they are neither more nor less than towns — by the fact that the State, for the convenience of towns more widely separated from one another and removed from a common centre than were those in the Bay, chose to delegate a larger share of her authority to them than Massachusetts did to her towns. In both cases they derived all their power from the State and conferred none upon it. Nor were they any more “little republics,” or more independent of State control than other towns in New England, because in apportioning representation to the General Court town lines were used to express the territorial unit of representation.

It would seem that Professor Johnston’s theory of town sovereignty was adopted to lay the foundation for his fifth proposition, that in the Convention of 1787 the equal and unchangeable representation of the States in the Senate of the United States was based upon the Connecticut system of town representation. So far from this being probable, the fact is that while the representation in the Senate of the United States was State or corporate representation, the representation in the General Assembly was not corporate representation, but essentially the representation of the people determined, not by corporate powers, but by town lines.

We find nothing in the debates of the Convention of 1787 which warrants the view of Professor Johnston. Theories of government were discussed, constitutions of the several States were referred to, and some of their provisions, notably those of Massachusetts, were adopted; but the main features of the Constitution were determined by the necessities of the situation and the interests of sections and of States, — as large or small, agricultural or commercial, slaveholding or non-slaveholding.

The Connecticut delegation had great influence in the Convention, first, because Sherman, Johnson, and Ellsworth were very able men, and the only three very able men from any State who worked together; and secondly, because Connecti-

cut, being neither one of the largest nor one of the smallest States, held a position of great influence as mediator between the two classes of States.

Mr. H. E. SCUDDER spoke of the sketch of the history of Connecticut, by Professor Johnston, printed in the first volume of the "Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science," and said that the ability shown in that essay had led to his being selected to write the History of Connecticut in the Commonwealth Series.

Mr. HENRY W. HAYNES said : —

I wish to return for a moment to Judge Chamberlain's statements in regard to certain theories as to the origin of English institutions. The opinion maintained by Freeman, Green, and others — that most of the legal and social usages of England have been derived from the Anglo-Saxons, or as they prefer to call them the Early English — has been combated by Mr. H. C. Coote, in a brief treatise entitled "A Neglected Fact in English History," which he subsequently expanded into a considerable volume called "The Romans in Britain." In this he claimed that the land-laws and social organization of England are more Roman than Germanic, but that the majority of the population of eastern England is descended from ancestors who were settled there long before the Anglo-Saxon conquest. At the time of the invasion of the Romans they found the country occupied by a population of the Belgæ, who belonged to a Teutonic stock. From them were derived such German customs as have been attributed to the Anglo-Saxons. The Romans colonized the country, allotting its area to landholders by boundaries laid down by *agrimensores*, assigning the native population to them as serfs. Roman municipalities were also largely disseminated throughout the island. The Saxon Conquest left the descendants of these Roman *coloni* in possession of their lands and rights; while the old Belgic population remained as the laboring class, and the victorious Saxons constituted a military aristocracy, which was afterwards almost exterminated by the Danes.

These and other positions assumed by Mr. Coote, which it would take too much time to cite, are sustained by a wealth of learning and illustration, which cannot be neglected by the

careful student of history, even if they fail to carry conviction from their failure to explain all the known conditions.

Mr. R. C. WINTHROP, JR., said : —

It occurs to me to mention that not long after Professor Johnston's "Connecticut" appeared in the American Commonwealth Series, I wrote to him that I had read the book with a great deal of interest and pleasure, but that I thought it only right to point out to him that he had been careless about some of his facts. For instance, on page 110, he had stated that John Winthrop the younger did not arrive in New England till October, 1635, more than five years after his father, and that on his way to Boston he was "diverted into an interest in Connecticut." I need hardly say that writers upon the early colonial period are supposed to be aware that John Winthrop the younger reached Boston in November, 1631, but little more than a year after his father; that he was immediately made an Assistant of the Massachusetts Colony, and soon after took the leading part in founding the town of Ipswich. His arrival here in October, 1635, which Professor Johnston hastily assumed to have been his first coming, was merely his return from a visit to England; and the commission he then brought with him to be governor at the mouth of the Connecticut River was only a temporary employment which did not oblige him to retire from the Massachusetts magistracy. In point of fact, in spite of repeated absences, he continued a Massachusetts Assistant until 1650, in which year he first became a freeman of Connecticut.

In reply to this and other criticisms, I received a very polite letter from Professor Johnston, promising that proper corrections should be made if a second edition was called for, and entering into some brief explanation of his motives in writing the book. The following passages in his letter are of interest : —

"Not a New Englander by birth or blood, I felt indebted to Connecticut for home, family, and much more than I could say. . . . But though not a New England historian, and never looking to be considered an authority in that department, yet I felt that I had special training enough to contribute my quota of judicial opinion upon some points of Connecticut history and her influence on our country's his-

tory and development, which had not been treated altogether to satisfy me. It seemed to me that there was more than had been brought out. I can thus claim nothing more than a place in the skirmish-line, covering only one small part of it, for the possible guidance of the coming historian of Connecticut. My work, imperfect as it may be, has done me good. To me, actions and results have always seemed of far more importance than words, however fine; and it would not be easy for me to say how much I have found to admire in the typical Connecticut man, — the silent, logical, inexorable *success* of Winthrop, Hooker, Allyn, and others of the Connecticut founders. The smallness of their field does not alter the case: Nature works on the same principle, without regard to scale. They seem to me to have exhibited the very essence of individual, quiet self-reliance, trebly beautiful in these days, when no ten men can do or begin anything unless they form a ‘union’ of some kind, to give them courage to attempt it!”

A new serial, comprising the proceedings at the meetings in October and November last, was placed on the table at this meeting.